

To: Alexander Nazaryan [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 8:21:53 PM
Subject: RE: Here is our statement for Newsweek

No, this response is to your query.

From: Alexander Nazaryan [mailto:Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:19 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

I don't think this response is to my query. I was specifically asking about administrator's visits --- or lack thereof -- to EPA regional offices.

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.”
– EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the

Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,' said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency's senior adviser for climate adaptation. 'Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.' ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities "invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On Behalf Of**
Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

To: alexnazaryan[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 7:46:39 PM
Subject: Here is our statement for Newsweek

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out

I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: 202.309.0934
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On Behalf Of** Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 7:45:17 PM
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Sure.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

This is good with me, can you please reply to reporter directly?

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work

on climate adaptation,' said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency's senior adviser for climate adaptation. 'Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.' ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities "invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Im not replying to this garbage, unless it is to say "This is nonsense"

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

His articles look like DNC blog posts.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:40 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Ah, this is what I would call morbid:

<http://www.journalism.org/2013/06/03/newsweek-numbers/>

**Newsweek has not been audited since 2013 According to the Pew Research Center

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy On Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 7:42:05 PM
Subject: RE: Pruitt

This is good with me, can you please reply to reporter directly?

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe

drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Im not replying to this garbage, unless it is to say “This is nonsense”

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

His articles look like DNC blog posts.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:40 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Ah, this is what I would call morbid:

<http://www.journalism.org/2013/06/03/newsweek-numbers/>

****Newsweek has not been audited since 2013 According to the Pew Research Center**

From: [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] **On Behalf Of** Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 7:28:43 PM
Subject: RE: Pruitt

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained

By FOIA, 07/26/17)

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Im not replying to this garbage, unless it is to say "This is nonsense"

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

His articles look like DNC blog posts.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:40 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Ah, this is what I would call morbid:

<http://www.journalism.org/2013/06/03/newsweek-numbers/>

**Newsweek has not been audited since 2013 According to the Pew Research Center

From: [REDACTED] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** On Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: jjacoby@leftright.tv[jjacoby@leftright.tv]; anya.bourg; **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 9:55:33 PM
Subject: FW: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

On-The-Record Statement: “The \$1.2 B came straight from EPAs RIA. It was the upper estimate of the rules compliance costs for the first five years.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

On-The-Record Statement ... “This is a false characterization.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

From: Wilcox, Jahan

Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM

To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>

Cc: Anya Bourg <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy](#)>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM, <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well yesterday afternoon; I'm

available anytime to field questions or concerns. Please let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

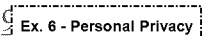
Jahan

Sent you the email below. I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Great talking to you Jahan. Thanks for the call.
You can reach me anytime at  Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the 60 Minutes piece I produced

featuring then-Senator Tom Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the original letter I sent requesting the interview with the Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I am a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship
public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I am
reaching
out to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for an
hour-
long
program
we are
producing
that
will

take a
balanced
look at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will
also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into a

larger
economic
and
political
context
for our
viewers.
We
will do
so by
including
a wide
range
of
perspectives
on the
real-
world
cost of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of this
program
is to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline

is
respected
for its
depth,
fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.

We
think it
is vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as he
puts it,
"people
look at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look at
the
IRS."

This
documentary
will
trace
the
recent
history

of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG to
argue
for the
rule of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in his
new
role as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts
to roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to get
the
EPA

"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like to
spend
time in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative
economic
impact
of the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma

City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as a
result
of the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that is,
without
a
doubt,
one of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in this
country's
recent
history.

If
possible,
we
would
like to
arrange
an on-
camera
interview
with
Mr.
Pruitt.
We
are
also
interested
in
following
him on

any
upcoming
media
events
on his
Back
to
Basics
tour.
We
can
discuss
that
further,
but
our
primary
objective
is to
sit
down
with
Mr.
Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you in
person
to
discuss
this
request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell
is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Bolen, Brittany[bolen.brittany@epa.gov]
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 6:43:38 PM
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Great thank you.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 2:43 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov>; Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Dravis, Samantha
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:52 AM
To: Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>;

Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Betsy Southerland is the one who made the accusation that those numbers are not accurate, and she is wrong.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:48 AM, Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey, I can't pull up the original press release anymore. Says page not available.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg <anya.bourg@epa.gov> Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well yesterday afternoon; I'm available anytime to field questions or concerns. Please let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM,
James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below. I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Great talking to you
Jahan. Thanks for the
call. You can reach
me anytime at

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the
60 Minutes piece I
produced featuring
then-Senator Tom
Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the
original letter I sent
requesting the
interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship
public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a
balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind

Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will
also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to
put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into
a
larger
economic
and
political
context

for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including
a
wide
range
of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is
to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As

you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,
fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people
look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they

look
at
the
IRS."
This
documentary
will
trace
the
recent
history
of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in

his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts
to
roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to
spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in

the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative
economic
impact
of
the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,
without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most

important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If
possible,
we
would
like
to
arrange
an
on-
camera
interview
with
Mr.
Pruitt.
We
are
also
interested
in
following
him
on
any
upcoming
media
events
on
his
Back
to
Basics
tour.
We
can
discuss
that
further,
but

our
primary
objective
is
to
sit
down
with
Mr.
Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy

to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this
request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell
is

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Bolen, Brittany[bolen.brittany@epa.gov]
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 6:43:07 PM
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Dravis, Samantha
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:52 AM
To: Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Betsy Southerland is the one who made the accusation that those numbers are not accurate, and she is wrong.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:48 AM, Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey, I can't pull up the original press release anymore. Says page not available. However,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> Graham, Amy
<graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln
<ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz
<[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Abboud, Michael
<abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James
<hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy > wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well
yesterday afternoon; I'm
available anytime to field
questions or concerns. Please
let me know how best to follow
up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM,
James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below.
I just wanted to reiterate
something: the bottom line
is we want to understand
where the Administrator is
coming from and where he
wants to bring the agency.
Frontline is the best
possible venue to get into
depth and nuance as
opposed to soundbites. As
we discussed, there's a
prevailing narrative out
there about the
Administrator; if there's
more to the story, we're
seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11
PM, James Jacoby

<jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Great talking to you
Jahan. Thanks for the
call. You can reach
me anytime at

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the
60 Minutes piece I
produced featuring
then-Senator Tom
Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the
original letter I sent
requesting the
interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship
public
affairs
series

on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a
balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will
also
seek
to

explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to
put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into
a
larger
economic
and
political
context
for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including
a
wide
range

of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is
to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,
fairness,
and
commitment

to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people
look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look
at
the
IRS."
This
documentary
will
trace
the
recent
history
of

grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in
his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts
to
roll
back

Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to
spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in
the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative
economic
impact
of

the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,
without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If
possible,
we

would
like
to
arrange
an
on-
camera
interview
with
Mr.
Pruitt.
We
are
also
interested
in
following
him
on
any
upcoming
media
events
on
his
Back
to
Basics
tour.
We
can
discuss
that
further,
but
our
primary
objective
is
to
sit
down
with
Mr.
Pruitt
to
understand

his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this
request.
I'm
available

any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.

My
cell

is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Bolen, Brittany[bolen.brittany@epa.gov]
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 6:26:25 PM
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elq-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Dravis, Samantha
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:52 AM
To: Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Betsy Southerland is the one who made the accusation that those numbers are not accurate, and she is wrong.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:48 AM, Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey, I can't pull up the original press release anymore. Says page not available. However,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg {Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy}; Graham, Amy
<graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln
<ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz
<Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael
<abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James
<hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an

interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy > wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy > wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well
yesterday afternoon; I'm
available anytime to field
questions or concerns. Please

let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM,
James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below.
I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Great talking to you
Jahan. Thanks for the
call. You can reach
me anytime at

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the
60 Minutes piece I
produced featuring
then-Senator Tom
Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the
original letter I sent
requesting the
interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship

public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a
balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will

also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to
put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into
a
larger
economic
and
political
context
for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including

a
wide
range
of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is
to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,

fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people
look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look
at
the
IRS."
This
documentary
will
trace
the

recent
history
of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in
his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts

to
roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to
spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in
the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative

economic
impact
of
the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,
without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If possible, we would like to arrange an on-camera interview with Mr. Pruitt. We are also interested in following him on any upcoming media events on his Back to Basics tour. We can discuss that further, but our primary objective is to sit down with Mr.

Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this

request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell

is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
Cc: Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bolen, Brittany[bolen.brittany@epa.gov]; Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Greenwalt, Sarah
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 1:08:00 PM
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process please note that it's SouthERland.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record.
What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elq-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy](#)>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James

< **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** > wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy > wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James
Jacob <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well
yesterday afternoon; I'm available
anytime to field questions or
concerns. Please let me know how
best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below. I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Great talking to you
Jahan. Thanks for the
call. You can reach me

anytime at Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the 60
Minutes piece I produced
featuring then-Senator
Tom Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the original
letter I sent requesting the
interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship
public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to

discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a
balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will
also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the

subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to
put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into
a
larger
economic
and
political
context
for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including
a
wide
range
of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental

regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is
to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,
fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital

that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people
look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look
at
the
IRS."
This
documentary
will
trace
the
recent
history
of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as

Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in
his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts
to
roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to

basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to
spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in
the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative
economic
impact
of
the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues

in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,
without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If
possible,
we
would
like
to
arrange
an
on-
camera
interview
with

Mr.
Pruitt.
We
are
also
interested
in
following
him
on
any
upcoming
media
events
on
his
Back
to
Basics
tour.
We
can
discuss
that
further,
but
our
primary
objective
is
to
sit
down
with
Mr.
Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental

regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this
request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or

concerns.

My
cell

is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Bolen, Brittany[bolen.brittany@epa.gov]
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Dravis, Samantha
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 12:51:39 PM
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Betsy Southerland is the one who made the accusation that those numbers are not accurate, and she is wrong.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:48 AM, Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey, I can't pull up the original press release anymore. Says page not available. However,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several

people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480

million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy](#)>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request

because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James

Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well yesterday afternoon; I'm available anytime to field questions or concerns. Please let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below. I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As

we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Great talking to you Jahan. Thanks for the call. You can reach me anytime at

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the 60 Minutes piece I produced featuring then-Senator Tom Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the original letter I sent requesting the

interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship
public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a

balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will
also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to
put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations

into
a
larger
economic
and
political
context
for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including
a
wide
range
of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is

to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,
fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people

look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look
at
the
IRS."

This
documentary
will
trace
the
recent
history
of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to

interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in
his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts
to
roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to

spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in
the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative
economic
impact
of
the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,

without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If
possible,
we
would
like
to
arrange
an
on-
camera
interview
with
Mr.
Pruitt.
We
are
also
interested
in
following
him
on
any
upcoming
media
events
on
his
Back
to
Basics

tour.
We
can
discuss
that
further,
but
our
primary
objective
is
to
sit
down
with
Mr.
Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,

my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this
request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell
is

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Forsgren, Lee[Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov]; Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bolen, Brittany[bolen.brittany@epa.gov]
From: Dravis, Samantha
Sent: Tue 10/3/2017 8:28:26 PM
Subject: Re: WaPo on WOTUS cost-benefit Analysis

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 3, 2017, at 4:14 PM, Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov> wrote:

Sam - Just FYI

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 3, 2017, at 3:21 PM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Sarah, Lee and Samantha –

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Thanks – Liz

From: Eilperin, Juliet [mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:06 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Dennis, Brady <Brady.Dennis@washpost.com>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Hey

Dear Jahan,

Just a couple of quick things:

1. Is it accurate to say that the Administrator was scheduled to address the National Mining Association meeting at the Trump Hotel today, but did not go because he traveled with POTUS to Puerto Rico to survey hurricane recovery efforts?
2. Brady and I will do a short story about a piece that is scheduled to publish in the journal Science on Thursday at 2 pm (it's embargoed) on the issue of the how EPA did its cost-benefits analysis for rescinding and reissuing the WOTUS rule. We wanted to make sure EPA had a chance to comment on the piece, and were wondering whether you or Liz wanted to check in on that. It may be easiest to just chat by phone for a couple of minutes on that front, and then you could decide what sort of comment you would make. I should be at my desk most of the afternoon, and I think the same is true for Brady.

Thanks.

Juliet

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Forsgren, Lee[Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov]; Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Greenwalt, Sarah
Sent: Tue 10/3/2017 8:14:44 PM
Subject: Re: WaPo on WOTUS cost-benefit Analysis

Sam - Just FYI,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 3, 2017, at 3:21 PM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi Sarah, Lee and Samantha –

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Thanks – Liz

From: Eilperin, Juliet [mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:06 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Dennis, Brady <Brady.Dennis@washpost.com>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Hey

Dear Jahan,

Just a couple of quick things:

1. Is it accurate to say that the Administrator was scheduled to address the National Mining Association meeting at the Trump Hotel today, but did not go because he traveled with POTUS to Puerto Rico to survey hurricane recovery efforts?
2. Brady and I will do a short story about a piece that is scheduled to publish in the journal Science on Thursday at 2 pm (it's embargoed) on the issue of the how EPA did its cost-benefits analysis for rescinding and reissuing the WOTUS rule. We wanted to make sure EPA had a chance to comment on the piece, and were wondering whether you or Liz wanted to check in on that. It may be easiest to just chat by phone for a couple of minutes on that front, and then you could decide what sort of comment you would make. I should be at my desk most of the afternoon, and I think the same is true for Brady.

Thanks.

Juliet

To: Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]; Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Forsgren, Lee[Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov]
Cc: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tue 10/3/2017 7:21:50 PM
Subject: WaPo on WOTUS cost-benefit Analysis

Hi Sarah, Lee and Samantha –

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Thanks – Liz

From: Eilperin, Juliet [mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:06 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Dennis, Brady <Brady.Dennis@washpost.com>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Hey

Dear Jahan,

Just a couple of quick things:

1. Is it accurate to say that the Administrator was scheduled to address the National Mining Association meeting at the Trump Hotel today, but did not go because he traveled with POTUS to Puerto Rico to survey hurricane recovery efforts?
2. Brady and I will do a short story about a piece that is scheduled to publish in the journal Science on Thursday at 2 pm (it's embargoed) on the issue of the how EPA did its cost-benefits analysis for rescinding and reissuing the WOTUS rule. We wanted to make sure EPA had a chance to comment on the piece, and were wondering whether you or Liz wanted to check in on that. It may be easiest to just chat by phone for a couple of minutes on that front, and then you could decide what sort of comment you would make. I should be at my desk most of the afternoon, and I think the same is true for Brady.

Thanks.

Juliet

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov];
Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 7:29:28 PM
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Thanks to Amy it's in the updated pitch.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 3:28 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 2:17 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Below is the pitch.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:57 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes. I am also putting a pitch together on this that I will circulate.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Fine w me; Jahan can you reply to her directly?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the updated statement for approval

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland,

director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov];
Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 7:28:17 PM
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 2:17 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Below is the pitch.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:57 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes. I am also putting a pitch together on this that I will circulate.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Fine w me; Jahan can you reply to her directly?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the updated statement for approval **Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process**
Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto: graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <[Press@epa.gov](mailto: Press@epa.gov)>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <[joe.davidson@washpost.com](mailto: joe.davidson@washpost.com)>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto: Press@epa.gov)>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

"the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 7:14:30 PM
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

You have both the WaPo statement and the pitch to the Free Beacon.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>
Cc: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Did we end up sending a response to the Washington Post at all? If so, can you send it to me?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>
Cc: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Wait a second on this.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:19 PM, Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press

releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 7:12:49 PM
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Did we end up sending a response to the Washington Post at all? If so, can you send it to me?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>
Cc: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Wait a second on this.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:19 PM, Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT

To: Press <Press@epa.gov>

Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 6:25:29 PM
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 2:17 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Below is the pitch.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:57 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes. I am also putting a pitch together on this that I will circulate.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Fine w me; Jahan can you reply to her directly?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the updated statement for approval

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto: graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <[Press@epa.gov](mailto: Press@epa.gov)>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <[joe.davidson@washpost.com](mailto: joe.davidson@washpost.com)>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto: Press@epa.gov)>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov];
Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 6:17:07 PM
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Below is the pitch.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:57 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes. I am also putting a pitch together on this that I will circulate.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael

<abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Fine w me; Jahan can you reply to her directly?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the updated statement for approval

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM

To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz
<Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM

To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>;
Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health

and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov];
Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 5:57:26 PM
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

I am doing that. A pitch will be coming.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:57 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes. I am also putting a pitch together on this that I will circulate.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Fine w me; Jahan can you reply to her directly?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the updated statement for approval

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy"

Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov];
Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 5:56:53 PM
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes. I am also putting a pitch together on this that I will circulate.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Fine w me; Jahan can you reply to her directly?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the updated statement for approval

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov];
Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 5:55:23 PM
Subject: RE: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Yes. I am also putting a pitch together on this that I will circulate.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>;
Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Fine w me; Jahan can you reply to her directly?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the updated statement for approval

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>;
Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto: graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Wilcox, Jahan <[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov](mailto: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <[Press@epa.gov](mailto: Press@epa.gov)>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <[joe.davidson@washpost.com](mailto: joe.davidson@washpost.com)>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <[Press@epa.gov](mailto: Press@epa.gov)>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

"the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov];
Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 5:54:27 PM
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Fine w me; Jahan can you reply to her directly?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:52 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Here is the updated statement for approval

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>;
Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>;
Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 5:52:05 PM
Subject: FOR APPROVAL: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Here is the updated statement for approval

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:19 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>

From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>

Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT

To: Press <Press@epa.gov>

Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 5:38:35 PM
Subject: Re: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Wait a second on this.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 31, 2017, at 1:19 PM, Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>;
Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure

comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 5:19:05 PM
Subject: RE: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Do we want to provide a statement?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs

would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: alexnazaryan [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Tue 11/7/2017 5:24:26 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Hi guys, wondering if there was any movement on those numbers?

Also, since this will be a cover story, it seems like I should only ask again if Mr. Pruitt can talk to us. Phone, in person, whatever.

On Thu, Nov 2, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We will get a number tomorrow for you.

On Nov 2, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

I am not trying to be a pest, but can someone please answer my inquiries?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Alexander Nazaryan
<a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan
<[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]> wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the

implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan
<wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public

health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy On
Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer
Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer
Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Thur 9/21/2017 3:30:35 PM
Subject: APPROVAL: LA Times questions -- civil service

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Background Without Attribution – As Everything Below Is In The Public Domain

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she

found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Betsy Southerland questioned Pruitt’s decision to partner with states to protect the environment. “Southerland questioned Pruitt’s belief that the EPA and federal environmental standards were guilty of ‘running roughshod over states’ rights.” ([The Huffington Post](#), 08/02/17)

Governor Dayton (DFL-MN) praised Administrator Pruitt for working with the states and even said he didn’t want the regional EPA offices micromanaging his state. “Gov. Mark Dayton described a meeting Wednesday with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt as ‘productive and cordial’ and said he’s hopeful the Trump administration will eliminate some of the federal government red tape dealt to state agencies. ‘We don’t believe we need to be micromanaged by Region 5 in Chicago,’ Dayton said during a news conference following a meeting at the Capitol that lasted more than an hour.” ([Minnesota Public Radio](#), 07/19/17)

According to McClatchy, Congress will move forward with their own budget. “Trump’s fellow Republicans control both chambers of Congress, but even so lawmakers are expected to move forward with their own budget blueprint this spring, as they traditionally have done.” ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

The White House’s Budget no matter who is in power has become increasingly irrelevant as Congress has the power of the purse. “First, no matter who has been in the White House in recent years the president’s budget has become increasingly irrelevant to what, if anything, gets done. This is not Obama-dependent: it has been happening over the past few decades.” ([Forbes](#), 02/01/16)

In 2015, President Obama’s budget received 1 vote. “President Obama’s budget suffered its latest ignominious defeat when the Senate rejected it on a 98-1 vote Tuesday evening, capping off the first votes of the budget season.” ([The Washington Times](#), 03/24/15)

In 2012, not a single person in the Senate or the House voted for President Obama’s budget. “President Obama’s budget suffered a second embarrassing defeat Wednesday, when senators voted 99-0 to reject it. Coupled with the House’s rejection in March, 414-0, that means Mr. Obama’s budget has failed to win a single vote in support this year.” ([The Washington Times](#), 05/16/12)

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said that he expects Congress to ignore the budget. “Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell has already said he expects the Republican-led Congress to largely ignore the proposal, saying in an interview last week with Bloomberg News that early versions reflected priorities that “aren’t necessarily ours.” ([Bloomberg](#), 05/22/17)

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

From: Halper, Evan [<mailto:Evan.Halper@latimes.com>]

Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:35 AM

To: Press <Press@epa.gov>

Subject: LA Times questions -- civil service

Good morning:

I am reaching out for comment from the agency for a story about the civil service under the Trump administration. Does the EPA have a response to the concerns raised by recently departed employees such as Betsy Southerland and Michael Cox – and echoed by advocacy groups and lawmakers -- that it is sidelining its own scientific research and scientists in pursuit of the Trump political agenda? Has its approach to taking input from career staff changed with this administration?

You can reach me at 916.201.6398 if you would prefer to discuss in an interview. My deadline is 3:30 p.m. today. Thanks very much for your attention to this.

Best,

Evan Halper

National Reporter

Los Angeles Times

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: alexnazaryan[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Fri 11/17/2017 4:13:52 PM
Subject: Re:

Enjoyed the Administrator's interview with the Washington Post. Could we set something similar up for Newsweek?

On Thu, Nov 16, 2017 at 3:28 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We sent you an on-the-record statement in October and we will send you this on-the-record statement as well.

On-The-Record Statement ... “Administrator Pruitt has met with staff from every region and took the unprecedented step of meeting with EPA’s criminal investigators – a department that Obama slashed by 24 percent – about how we can work together to protect the environment and American jobs.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest

literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Have a good day Alexander and we look forward to reading your story.

Best,

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Alexander Nazaryan [<mailto:a.nazaryan@newsweek.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 9:08 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject:

Hi Jahan, I just want to make sure my requests are being taken seriously. That wasn't the impression I got when we spoke today.

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer, National Affairs
Newsweek

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer
Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: alexnazaryan [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Thur 11/16/2017 8:30:52 PM
Subject: Re:

Jahan, I specifically asked about how many regulations he has cancelled or reviewed. Also, about how many regional offices he's visited specifically.

And, again, I'd like to put in a request to interview Mr. Pruitt for the article.

Thanks,

Alex

On Thu, Nov 16, 2017 at 3:28 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We sent you an on-the-record statement in October and we will send you this on-the-record statement as well.

On-The-Record Statement ... “Administrator Pruitt has met with staff from every region and took the unprecedented step of meeting with EPA’s criminal investigators – a department that Obama slashed by 24 percent – about how we can work together to protect the environment and American jobs.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime

political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. 'Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,' said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency's senior adviser for climate adaptation. 'Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.' ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities "invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Have a good day Alexander and we look forward to reading your story.

Best,

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Alexander Nazaryan [<mailto:a.nazaryan@newsweek.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2017 9:08 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject:

Hi Jahan, I just want to make sure my requests are being taken seriously. That wasn't the impression I got when we spoke today.

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer, National Affairs
Newsweek

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer
Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Thur 11/16/2017 8:17:27 PM
Subject: Re: APPROVAL

Ok

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 16, 2017, at 3:12 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

I am going to give Newsweek this statement as well:

“Administrator Pruitt has met with staff from every region and took the unprecedented step of meeting with EPA’s criminal investigators – a department that Obama slashed by 24 percent – about how we can work together to protect the environment and American jobs.”

From: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy On Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2017 1:37 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Are you guys still able to get me these numbers?
Thanks.

On Thu, Nov 2, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We will get a number tomorrow for you.

On Nov 2, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

I am not trying to be a pest, but can someone please answer my inquiries?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan <alexnazaryan@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan
<wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by

Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. 'Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,' said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency's senior adviser for climate adaptation. 'Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.' ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities "invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: alexnazaryan@gmail.com
[\[mailto:alexnazaryan@gmail.com\]](mailto:alexnazaryan@gmail.com) **On Behalf Of** Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Thur 11/16/2017 8:12:20 PM
Subject: APPROVAL

I am going to give Newsweek this statement as well:

“Administrator Pruitt has met with staff from every region and took the unprecedented step of meeting with EPA’s criminal investigators – a department that Obama slashed by 24 percent – about how we can work together to protect the environment and American jobs.”

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On Behalf Of** Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2017 1:37 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Are you guys still able to get me these numbers? Thanks.

On Thu, Nov 2, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We will get a number tomorrow for you.

On Nov 2, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

I am not trying to be a pest, but can someone please answer my inquiries?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Alexander Nazaryan
<a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan
<**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**> wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan
<wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example.

'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On**
Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his

employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Sat 11/11/2017 4:39:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com>
Date: November 10, 2017 at 11:36:36 AM GMT-7
To: "Wilcox, Jahan" <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: "Abboud, Michael" <abboud.michael@epa.gov>, "Bowman, Liz" <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>, "Hewitt, James" <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Are you guys still able to get me these numbers? Thanks.

On Thu, Nov 2, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We will get a number tomorrow for you.

On Nov 2, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

I am not trying to be a pest, but can someone please answer my inquiries?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan

<Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan

<wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s

senior adviser for climate adaptation. 'Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.' ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities "invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.'

([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office."

([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

On Behalf Of Alexander

Nazaryan

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM

To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: alexnazaryan(Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy)
Sent: Fri 11/10/2017 6:36:36 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Are you guys still able to get me these numbers? Thanks.

On Thu, Nov 2, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We will get a number tomorrow for you.

On Nov 2, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

I am not trying to be a pest, but can someone please answer my inquiries?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Alexander Nazaryan
<a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan

{ Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy } wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan
<wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” (Seattle Times, 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: 202.309.0934
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On**
Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer
Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer
Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Alexander Nazaryan[a.nazaryan@newsweek.com]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Thur 11/2/2017 10:41:44 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

We will get a number tomorrow for you.

On Nov 2, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

I am not trying to be a pest, but can someone please answer my inquiries?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she

retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: 202.309.0934
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On**
Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: alexnazaryan[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Thur 11/2/2017 10:17:26 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

I am not trying to be a pest, but can someone please answer my inquiries?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... "We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best." – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy On Behalf
Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Thur 11/2/2017 12:42:21 AM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**> wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed

through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. 'Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,' said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency's senior adviser for climate adaptation. 'Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.' ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities "invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy On Behalf Of
Alexander Nazaryan

Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer
Newsweek
(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan
Senior Writer
Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Tue 10/31/2017 7:57:11 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.”
– EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need

to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On Behalf Of**
Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Mon 10/23/2017 9:57:47 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Okay, so do one with us.

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 2:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

What do you mean such little press, we just did an interview with Time (20 minutes), Houston Chronicle, Fox 26 Houston, CBS 11 in Lincoln and a radio interview in Nebraska - all last week.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 23, 2017, at 5:35 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Jahan, I'd like to put in for an interview with Administrator Pruitt. It seems odd to me that a public official does so little press. All I'd like to do is ask him some very basic questions about his vision for the EPA. Thanks.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 1:21 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

No, this response is to your query.

From: Alexander Nazaryan [mailto:Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:19 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

I don't think this response is to my query. I was specifically asking about administrator's visits --- or lack thereof -- to EPA regional offices.

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: [REDACTED] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** **On**
Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

[\(718\) 612-3356](tel:(718)612-3356)

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

[\(718\) 612-3356](tel:(718)612-3356)

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

To: Alexander Nazaryan [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 10/23/2017 9:55:57 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

What do you mean such little press, we just did an interview with Time (20 minutes), Houston Chronicle, Fox 26 Houston, CBS 11 in Lincoln and a radio interview in Nebraska - all last week.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 23, 2017, at 5:35 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]> wrote:

Jahan, I'd like to put in for an interview with Administrator Pruitt. It seems odd to me that a public official does so little press. All I'd like to do is ask him some very basic questions about his vision for the EPA. Thanks.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 1:21 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

No, this response is to your query.

From: Alexander Nazaryan [mailto:[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:19 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

I don't think this response is to my query. I was specifically asking about administrator's visits --- or lack thereof -- to EPA regional offices.

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... "We have a great working relationship

with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ (Politico Pro, 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” (Seattle Times, 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA,

07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: 202.309.0934
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy On Behalf
Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Mon 10/23/2017 9:33:40 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Jahan, I'd like to put in for an interview with Administrator Pruitt. It seems odd to me that a public official does so little press. All I'd like to do is ask him some very basic questions about his vision for the EPA. Thanks.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 1:21 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

No, this response is to your query.

From: Alexander Nazaryan [mailto: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:19 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

I don't think this response is to my query. I was specifically asking about administrator's visits --- or lack thereof -- to EPA regional offices.

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great

working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: alexnazaryan@gmail.com [mailto:alexnazaryan@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of**
Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

To: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Sat 9/9/2017 3:08:56 PM
Subject: UPDATED For Review: Response to AP

Hi Julie –

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Thank you – Liz

Please note the following exclusions and misleading information in Michael Biesecker's article:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

###

Liz Bowman

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Office: 202-564-3293

To: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Sat 9/9/2017 2:50:03 PM
Subject: For Review: Response to AP

Hi Julie –

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Thank you – Liz

Please note the following exclusions and misleading information in Michael Biesecker's article:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

###

Liz Bowman

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Office: 202-564-3293

To: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
Cc: Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Sat 9/9/2017 2:44:41 PM
Subject: RE: AP Article

Thanks!!

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2017 10:15 AM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: AP Article

This is the report Nancy was able to find yesterday. He got it thru FOIA. The FOIA contained this phrase in it.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

The report is attached.

"We are also attaching the internal report developed for EPA through our mission support contract. The report [was] prepared to inform and prioritize program adaptation efforts, and is not intended as an Agency publication."

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 9, 2017, at 9:01 AM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

"A risk analysis by EPA concluded in 2012 that flooding at such sites in South Florida could pose a risk to public health by spreading contaminated soil and groundwater. Flooding could disturb dangerous pollutants and wash it onto nearby property or contaminate groundwater, including personal wells, said Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland, who retired last month as director of science and technology in EPA's Office of Water after 30 years at the agency."

What analysis is this? What office wrote it, and did Betsy have anything to do with it?

Liz Bowman

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Office: 202-564-3293

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 9, 2017, at 10:15 AM, Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov> wrote:

This is the report Nancy was able to find yesterday. He got it thru FOIA. The FOIA contained this phrase in it. Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process
Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process The report is attached.

"We are also attaching the internal report developed for EPA through our mission support contract. The report [was] prepared to inform and prioritize program adaptation efforts, and is not intended as an Agency publication."

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 9, 2017, at 9:01 AM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

"A risk analysis by EPA concluded in 2012 that flooding at such sites in South Florida could pose a risk to public health by spreading contaminated soil and groundwater. Flooding could disturb dangerous pollutants and wash it onto nearby property or contaminate groundwater, including personal wells, said Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland, who retired last month as director of science and technology in EPA's Office of Water after 30 years at the agency."

What analysis is this? What office wrote it, and did Betsy have anything to do with it?

Liz Bowman

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Office: 202-564-3293

To: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tue 8/22/2017 7:06:52 PM
Subject: RE: SES Exit Survey

Another option:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: SES Exit Survey

What do y'all think of this,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Link: <http://www.govexec.com/management/2016/01/25-feds-would-consider-leaving-their-jobs-if-trump-becomes-president/125549/>

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 2:08 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: SES Exit Survey

The original headline said 35% from Investor's Business Daily. But the actual number from respondents was 27% of yes/maybe in October 2016.

http://www.govexec.com/management/2016/10/just-65-percent-feds-commit-staying-during-trump-administration/132745/?oref=govexec_today_nl

This was pretty consistent throughout 2016. This poll was from January 2016 and it was 25%.

<http://www.govexec.com/management/2016/01/25-feds-would-consider-leaving-their-jobs-if-trump-becomes-president/125549/>

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 2:00 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: SES Exit Survey

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: SES Exit Survey

Anything we want to say here?

From: Davidson, Joe [mailto:joe.davidson@washpost.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 1:26 PM
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: SES Exit Survey

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about an [OPM SES Exit Survey](#) that shows the political environment is a key factor in the decision of senior executives to leave the government. A former EPA senior exec provided this example regarding President Trump's Executive Order in February directing EPA and the Army Corps to repeal and replace the 2015 Clean Water Rule: *"[Sec.] Pruitt decided to issue two different rules , one to repeal the 2015 rule and a second one to replace it with a new definition that would cover far fewer waters. In issuing the first rule proposing to repeal the 2015 rule, the political team directed staff economists to delete the wetland benefits published for the 2015 rule so it would look like the repeal of this rule saved more money than the benefits lost. There was no new economic data which indicated the wetlands benefits were flawed in some way. If those wetlands benefits had been retained, it would have shown that the benefits lost by repealing the rule were greater than the cost savings gained."*

Does EPA have any comment on this example?

Does EPA have any comment regarding the survey's findings that the political environment, organizational culture and senior leadership are the major factor in a workplace environment that encourages senior execs to leave?

I need to file by 3:30 p.m. today.

Thank you.

Best,
Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tue 8/22/2017 6:59:24 PM
Subject: RE: SES Exit Survey

What do y'all think of this,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Link: <http://www.govexec.com/management/2016/01/25-feds-would-consider-leaving-their-jobs-if-trump-becomes-president/125549/>

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 2:08 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: SES Exit Survey

The original headline said 35% from Investor's Business Daily. But the actual number from respondents was 27% of yes/maybe in October 2016.

<http://www.govexec.com/management/2016/10/just-65-percent-feds-commit-staying-during-trump-administration/132745/?oref=govexec> today nl

This was pretty consistent throughout 2016. This poll was from January 2016 and it was 25%.

<http://www.govexec.com/management/2016/01/25-feds-would-consider-leaving-their-jobs-if-trump-becomes-president/125549/>

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 2:00 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: SES Exit Survey

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: SES Exit Survey

Anything we want to say here?

From: Davidson, Joe [<mailto:joe.davidson@washpost.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2017 1:26 PM
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: SES Exit Survey

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about an [OPM SES Exit Survey](#) that shows the political environment is a key factor in the decision of senior executives to leave the government. A former EPA senior exec provided this example regarding President

Trump's Executive Order in February directing EPA and the Army Corps to repeal and replace the 2015 Clean Water Rule: "[Sec.] Pruitt decided to issue two different rules , one to repeal the 2015 rule and a second one to replace it with a new definition that would cover far fewer waters. In issuing the first rule proposing to repeal the 2015 rule, the political team directed staff economists to delete the wetland benefits published for the 2015 rule so it would look like the repeal of this rule saved more money than the benefits lost. There was no new economic data which indicated the wetlands benefits were flawed in some way. If those wetlands benefits had been retained, it would have shown that the benefits lost by repealing the rule were greater than the cost savings gained."

Does EPA have any comment on this example?

Does EPA have any comment regarding the survey's findings that the political environment, organizational culture and senior leadership are the major factor in a workplace environment that encourages senior execs to leave?

I need to file by 3:30 p.m. today.

Thank you.

Best,
Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: elizabeth.a.oberg [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] [elizabeth.a.oberg [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]]
From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Wed 8/9/2017 2:39:15 PM
Subject: WSJ Editorial

Hey Liz, this editorial from the Wall Street Journal may be of interest for the WH to push around. Thanks!

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/epa-resignation-facts-1502146629>

EPA Resignation Facts

The media and federal unions are making a cause celebre out of federal scientists who have resigned and then denounced Trump Administration policies on the way out. We're all for shrinking the government workforce, but the political melodrama could use a few leavening facts.

The latest splash is from Elizabeth Southerland, until recently the director of science and technology in the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water. Ms. Southerland ended a 30-year EPA career last week with an internal memo decrying Donald Trump's "draconian" budget cuts, and his "industry deregulation." She said her "civic duty" required that she warn that "our children and grandchildren" face "increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

This follows the much-publicized April departure of Michael Cox, who quit the EPA in Washington state after 25 years, complaining in a letter to Administrator Scott Pruitt about "indefensible budget cuts" and efforts to "dismantle EPA and its staff as quickly as possible."

Both EPA employees are of retirement age, and they are right to bow out if they can't in good faith work for Mr. Pruitt. Their letters nonetheless reveal an entrenched and liberal federal bureaucracy. Though career civil servants who are supposed to serve political appointees of any party, they have clearly become progressive ideological partisans.

Their exits also explain why so much of the EPA workforce is misrepresenting or missing the point of Mr. Pruitt's policy changes. Ms. Southerland raps the Administrator's call to rebalance power between the feds and states, as she claims the EPA "has always followed a cooperative

federalism approach.”

Really? During the combined presidencies of George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, the EPA imposed five federal air-quality implementation plans on states. Barack Obama’s EPA imposed 56.

The Obama EPA also stripped states of their statutory development authority, whether with its pre-emptive veto of Alaska’s Pebble Mine, or its Waters of the United States rule that gave the feds de facto sway over tens of millions of acres of private land. EPA employees embraced these new powers, but they violate the Constitution and hurt the environment.

Ms. Southerland seems to have forgotten that the largest clean-water disaster in recent years resulted from the EPA’s 2015 decision to punch a hole in the Gold King Mine in Colorado, turning the Animas River yellow with waste water and heavy metals. The agency shares blame for the Flint, Michigan, lead crisis, having failed to alert the public.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has a dismal record recovering endangered species, while the Forest Service’s logging restrictions have left millions of acres of dead, bug-infested trees as tinder for catastrophic wildfires.

Mr. Trump has proposed a 30% cut in EPA funding, but Congress won’t cut anything close. Mr. Pruitt’s decision to refocus on core jobs like Superfund cleanups means a shift in EPA spending in any event. The goal should be an EPA that is more efficient and effective—rather than one measured by employee numbers.

Ms. Southerland’s exit may also free up some dollars. Federal records show she earned \$249,000 last year in combined salary and bonus—\$1,000 less than a Supreme Court Justice and about \$200,000 more than the average taxpayer. She’ll receive an annual lifetime pension worth about 75% of the average of the last three years of her career. With that sinecure, she should forgive taxpayers for thinking a little fiscal discipline at EPA might be in order.

Michael Abboud

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Public Affairs

M: 202-578-9013

To: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO
From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Wed 8/9/2017 1:53:01 PM
Subject: WSJ editorial

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Hey Kaelan, this editorial from the Wall Street Journal may be of interest for the WH to push around.

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/epa-resignation-facts-1502146629>

EPA Resignation Facts

The media and federal unions are making a cause celebre out of federal scientists who have resigned and then denounced Trump Administration policies on the way out. We're all for shrinking the government workforce, but the political melodrama could use a few leavening facts.

The latest splash is from Elizabeth Southerland, until recently the director of science and technology in the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water. Ms. Southerland ended a 30-year EPA career last week with an internal memo decrying Donald Trump's "draconian" budget cuts, and his "industry deregulation." She said her "civic duty" required that she warn that "our children and grandchildren" face "increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

This follows the much-publicized April departure of Michael Cox, who quit the EPA in Washington state after 25 years, complaining in a letter to Administrator Scott Pruitt about "indefensible budget cuts" and efforts to "dismantle EPA and its staff as quickly as possible."

Both EPA employees are of retirement age, and they are right to bow out if they can't in good faith work for Mr. Pruitt. Their letters nonetheless reveal an entrenched and liberal federal bureaucracy. Though career civil servants who are supposed to serve political appointees of any party, they have clearly become progressive ideological partisans.

Their exits also explain why so much of the EPA workforce is misrepresenting or missing the point of Mr. Pruitt's policy changes. Ms. Southerland raps the Administrator's call to rebalance power between the feds and states, as she claims the EPA "has always followed a cooperative

federalism approach.”

Really? During the combined presidencies of George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, the EPA imposed five federal air-quality implementation plans on states. Barack Obama’s EPA imposed 56.

The Obama EPA also stripped states of their statutory development authority, whether with its pre-emptive veto of Alaska’s Pebble Mine, or its Waters of the United States rule that gave the feds de facto sway over tens of millions of acres of private land. EPA employees embraced these new powers, but they violate the Constitution and hurt the environment.

Ms. Southerland seems to have forgotten that the largest clean-water disaster in recent years resulted from the EPA’s 2015 decision to punch a hole in the Gold King Mine in Colorado, turning the Animas River yellow with waste water and heavy metals. The agency shares blame for the Flint, Michigan, lead crisis, having failed to alert the public.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has a dismal record recovering endangered species, while the Forest Service’s logging restrictions have left millions of acres of dead, bug-infested trees as tinder for catastrophic wildfires.

Mr. Trump has proposed a 30% cut in EPA funding, but Congress won’t cut anything close. Mr. Pruitt’s decision to refocus on core jobs like Superfund cleanups means a shift in EPA spending in any event. The goal should be an EPA that is more efficient and effective—rather than one measured by employee numbers.

Ms. Southerland’s exit may also free up some dollars. Federal records show she earned \$249,000 last year in combined salary and bonus—\$1,000 less than a Supreme Court Justice and about \$200,000 more than the average taxpayer. She’ll receive an annual lifetime pension worth about 75% of the average of the last three years of her career. With that sinecure, she should forgive taxpayers for thinking a little fiscal discipline at EPA might be in order.

Michael Abboud

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Public Affairs

M: 202-564-6461

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Thur 9/21/2017 3:33:02 PM
Subject: RE: APPROVAL: LA Times questions -- civil service

Joel's name is misspelled.

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 11:31 AM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Lyons, Troy <lyons.troy@epa.gov>
Subject: APPROVAL: LA Times questions -- civil service

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Background Without Attribution – As Everything Below Is In The Public Domain

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal

with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Betsy Southerland questioned Pruitt's decision to partner with states to protect the environment. "Southerland questioned Pruitt's belief that the EPA and federal environmental standards were guilty of 'running roughshod over states' rights.'" ([The Huffington Post](#), 08/02/17)

Governor Dayton (DFL-MN) praised Administrator Pruitt for working with the states and even said he didn't want the regional EPA offices micromanaging his state. "Gov. Mark Dayton described a meeting Wednesday with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt as 'productive and cordial' and said he's hopeful the Trump administration will eliminate some of the federal government red tape dealt to state agencies. 'We don't believe we need to be micromanaged by Region 5 in Chicago,' Dayton said during a news conference following a meeting at the Capitol that lasted more than an hour." ([Minnesota Public Radio](#), 07/19/17)

According to McClatchy, Congress will move forward with their own budget. "Trump's fellow Republicans control both chambers of Congress, but even so lawmakers are expected to move forward with their own budget blueprint this spring, as they traditionally have done." ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

The White House's Budget no matter who is in power has become increasingly irrelevant as Congress has the power of the purse. "First, no matter who has been in the White House in recent years the president's budget has become increasingly irrelevant to what, if anything, gets done. This is not Obama-dependent: it has been happening over the past few decades." ([Forbes](#), 02/01/16)

In 2015, President Obama's budget received 1 vote. "President Obama's budget suffered its latest ignominious defeat when the Senate rejected it on a 98-1 vote Tuesday evening, capping off the first votes of the budget season." ([The Washington Times](#), 03/24/15)

In 2012, not a single person in the Senate or the House voted for President Obama's budget. "President Obama's budget suffered a second embarrassing defeat Wednesday, when senators voted 99-0 to reject it. Coupled with the House's rejection in March, 414-0, that means Mr. Obama's budget has failed to win a single vote in support this year." ([The Washington Times](#), 05/16/12)

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said that he expects Congress to ignore the budget. "Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell has already said he expects the Republican-led Congress to largely ignore the proposal, saying in an interview last week with Bloomberg News that early versions reflected priorities that "aren't necessarily ours." ([Bloomberg](#), 05/22/17)

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.
(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.
(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500.
(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.
(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.
(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.
(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

From: Halper, Evan [<mailto:Evan.Halper@latimes.com>]
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:35 AM
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: LA Times questions -- civil service

Good morning:

I am reaching out for comment from the agency for a story about the civil service under the Trump administration. Does the EPA have a response to the concerns raised by recently departed employees such as Betsy Southerland and Michael Cox – and echoed by advocacy groups and lawmakers -- that it is sidelining its own scientific research and scientists in pursuit of the Trump political agenda? Has its approach to taking input from career staff changed with this administration?

You can reach me at 916.201.6398 if you would prefer to discuss in an interview. My deadline is 3:30 p.m. today. Thanks very much for your attention to this.

Best,

Evan Halper

National Reporter

Los Angeles Times

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Sat 9/9/2017 2:15:12 PM
Subject: Re: AP Article

This is the report Nancy was able to find yesterday. He got it thru FOIA. The FOIA contained this phrase in it.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

The report is attached.

"We are also attaching the internal report developed for EPA through our mission support contract. The report [was] prepared to inform and prioritize program adaptation efforts, and is not intended as an Agency publication."

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 9, 2017, at 9:01 AM, Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

"A risk analysis by EPA concluded in 2012 that flooding at such sites in South Florida could pose a risk to public health by spreading contaminated soil and groundwater. Flooding could disturb dangerous pollutants and wash it onto nearby property or contaminate groundwater, including personal wells, said Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland, who retired last month as director of science and technology in EPA's Office of Water after 30 years at the agency."

What analysis is this? What office wrote it, and did Betsy have anything to do with it?

Liz Bowman

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Office: 202-564-3293

To: Love, Kelly [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Rateike, Bradley A. Kennedy, Adam R.

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 9:26:19 PM
Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Jahan has the background on this and will share momentarily.

From: Love, Kelly A. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Rateike, Bradley A. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] Kennedy, Adam R. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Looping in Amy as well

From: Love, Kelly A. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:22 PM
To: 'Bowman, Liz' <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Rateike, Bradley A. Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Subject: FW: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hi Liz,

This seems greatly exaggerated, but let us know if you have any talkers we should be using if asked.

Thanks,

Kelly

From: RNC War Room [mailto:Warroom@gop.com]

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:06 PM

Subject: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hot Air

Jazz Shaw

July 31, 2017 – 4:01 PM

<http://hotair.com/archives/2017/07/31/another-epa-staffer-quits-trump-actually-retiring/>

Remember when Mike Cox, a climate change adviser at the EPA, “quit” his job because of his disagreements with the Trump administration and sent in a “scathing letter of resignation?” As it turned out, Cox was actually retiring and had been eligible for retirement for some time.

Well, that pattern is continuing this week. Elizabeth Southerland, the director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA’s Office of Water, unceremoniously quit today. Her claimed reasons included problems with the President’s proposed budget and how much was being allocated to the EPA. This is a rather frivolous reason because, as has been well documented in the past, whatever budget the President initially submits is little more than a wish list which rarely carries any weight. Congress controls the power of the purse, so her anger should be directed at them if the funding is not to her liking.

But as I indicated above, most of this appears to be a smokescreen anyway. Southerland is eligible for retirement and it would be surprising indeed if she chose to eschew her government employee retirement benefits in some sort of principled stand. Those benefits should be impressive to say the least, since they are always based on the time in service and best salary of the worker. In the case of Ms. Southerland, she was doing quite well for herself on the taxpayer dime. In 2016 she earned just shy of a quarter million dollars, and has done similarly well (if a bit short of that) in other years

dating back to at least 2011 with the EPA when she earned \$215K. Good work if you can get it to be sure, so if she elects to walk out the door and forfeit her benefits because of her moral revulsion to the agency providing them to her, expect to see a column here from me glorifying her for her remarkable moral fortitude. (But I'm not holding my breath.)

For their part, the EPA doesn't seem to be buying the "retirement" story either, but are still wishing Ms. Southerland a gracious bon voyage. This is from EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox.

"It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water."

A generous and gracious farewell. I, for one, will wait to see if Elizabeth proves me wrong and turns down all those sweet taxpayer funded retirement benefits. Perhaps she could donate them all to the federal government's general fund to help out the less fortunate.

Disclaimer: The Republican National Committee provided the above article as a service to its employees and other selected individuals. Any opinions expressed therein are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the RNC.

To: Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]; Samantha Dravis (dravis.samantha@epa.gov)[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Forsgren, Lee[Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov]
Cc: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Jahan Wilcox (wilcox.jahan@epa.gov)[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tue 10/3/2017 7:21:50 PM
Subject: WaPo on WOTUS cost-benefit Analysis

Hi Sarah, Lee and Samantha

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Thanks – Liz

From: Eilperin, Juliet [mailto:Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 3:06 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Dennis, Brady <Brady.Dennis@washpost.com>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Hey

Dear Jahan,

Just a couple of quick things:

1. Is it accurate to say that the Administrator was scheduled to address the National Mining Association meeting at the Trump Hotel today, but did not go because he traveled with POTUS to Puerto Rico to survey hurricane recovery efforts?
2. Brady and I will do a short story about a piece that is scheduled to publish in the journal Science on Thursday at 2 pm (it's embargoed) on the issue of the how EPA did its cost-benefits analysis for rescinding and reissuing the WOTUS rule. We wanted to make sure EPA had a chance to comment on the piece, and were wondering whether you or Liz wanted to check in on that. It may be easiest to just chat by phone for a couple of minutes on that front, and then you could decide what sort of comment you would make. I should be at my desk most of the afternoon, and I think the same is true for Brady.

Thanks.

Juliet



THE
ENVIRONMENTAL
COUNCIL OF
THE STATES

50 F Street, N.W.
Suite 350
Washington, D.C. 20001

Tel: (202) 266-4920
Email: ecos@ecos.org
Web: www.ecos.org

John Linc Stine

Commissioner, Minnesota
Pollution Control Agency
PRESIDENT

Todd Parfitt

Director, Wyoming Department
of Environmental Quality
VICE PRESIDENT

Becky Keogh

Director, Arkansas Department
of Environmental Quality
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Martha Rudolph

Director of Environmental
Programs, Colorado
Department of Public Health
and Environment
PAST PRESIDENT

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn

Executive Director &
General Counsel

July 27, 2017

Dr. Elizabeth Southerland
Director, Office of Science and Technology
Office of Water
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Via email to: southerland.elizabeth@epa.gov

Dear Betsy:

On behalf of the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS), I extend to you our deepest and most sincere congratulations on your retirement from a distinguished and impactful career at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. You have made significant and lasting contributions to water and land quality across the nation. Your expertise and public service extended to all Americans the benefits of a healthier, cleaner, safer, and more accessible natural environment.

As an organization of state officials, we particularly appreciate your career long dedication to improving the quality of the state-federal relationship and dialogue. Together, we have been able to accomplish more, and made progress on many difficult policy and technical matters. Your sense of purpose, passion, and good humor during many intense periods of dialogue and negotiation are qualities we respect and admire.

Professionally and personally, I will miss working with you. However, we know that you will continue making an impact and hope that you will remain in touch with us. We all wish you the utmost pleasure and reward in your retirement - and much time outside in the environment you so worked so capably to protect.

Sincerely,

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Alexandra Dapolito Dunn
Executive Director & General Counsel
Environmental Council of the States

To: Forsgren, Lee[Forsgren.Lee@epa.gov]
From: D Lee Forsgren
Sent: Sun 10/22/2017 7:01:24 PM
Subject: [SPAM] Fwd: Why Has the E.P.A. Shifted on Toxic Chemicals? An Industry Insider Helps Call the Shots - NYTimes.com

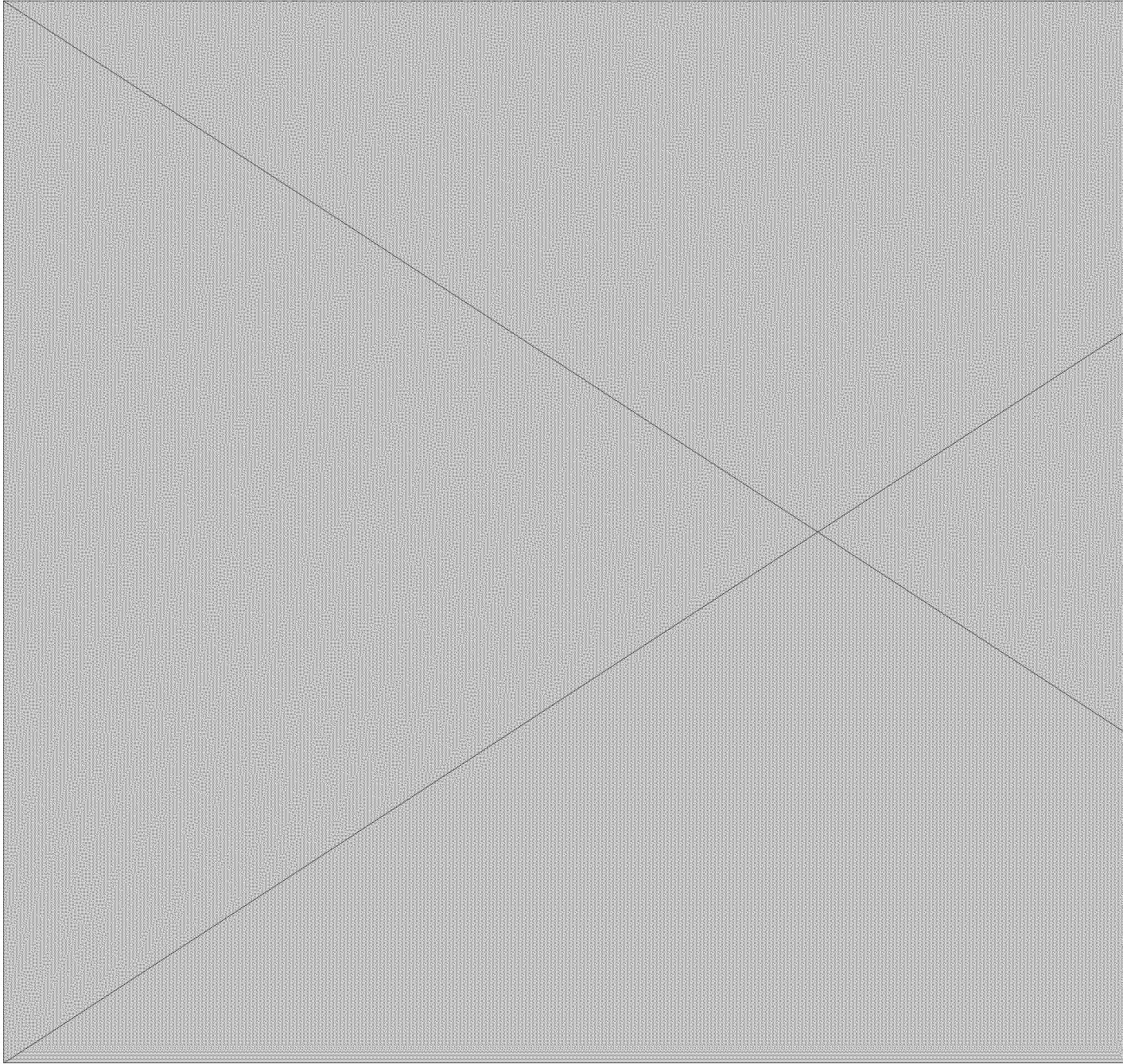
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: William Readdy <reads@discovery-partners.com>
Date: October 22, 2017 at 10:31:46 AM EDT
To: Forsgren D Lee <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy>
Subject: Why Has the E.P.A. Shifted on Toxic Chemicals? An Industry Insider Helps Call the Shots - NYTimes.com

https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/10/21/us/trump-epa-chemicals-regulations.html?emc=edit_th_20171022&nl=todaysheadlines&nid=37546268&referer=

Why Has the E.P.A. Shifted on Toxic Chemicals? An Industry Insider Helps Call the Shots



Nancy B. Beck, far left, and Wendy
Cleland-Hamnett, center in red dress, at

a signing for new toxic chemical rules,
with Scott Pruitt, the E.P.A.
administrator, center.

**A scientist who worked for the
chemical industry now shapes policy
on hazardous chemicals. Within the
E.P.A., there is fear that public health
is at risk. (At right, a signing ceremony
for new rules on toxic chemicals.)**

WASHINGTON — For years, the
Environmental Protection Agency has
struggled to prevent an ingredient once
used in stain-resistant carpets and
nonstick pans from contaminating
drinking water.

The chemical, perfluorooctanoic acid, or
PFOA, has been linked to kidney cancer,
birth defects, immune system disorders
and other serious health problems.

So scientists and administrators in the E.P.A.'s Office of Water were alarmed in late May when a top Trump administration appointee insisted upon the rewriting of a rule to make it harder to track the health consequences of the chemical, and therefore regulate it.

The revision was among more than a dozen demanded by the appointee, Nancy B. Beck, after she joined the E.P.A.'s toxic chemical unit in May as a top deputy. For the previous five years, she had been an executive at the American Chemistry Council, the chemical industry's main trade association.

The changes directed by Dr. Beck may result in an “underestimation of the potential risks to human health and the environment” caused by PFOA and other so-called legacy chemicals no longer sold on the market, the Office of Water's top

official warned in a confidential internal memo obtained by The New York Times.

<img class="span-asset-img "
src="<a
href="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images/2017/10/22/
toxics-beck/00regs-toxics19-
articleLarge.jpg">https://cdn1.nyt.com/images
toxics-beck/00regs-toxics19-
articleLarge.jpg" />

Dr. Beck testifying at a Senate hearing in March. She joined the E.P.A. in May after working as an executive at the American Chemistry Council, the chemical industry's main trade association.

U.S. Senate Committee Channel

The E.P.A.'s abrupt new direction on legacy chemicals is part of a broad initiative by the Trump administration to change the way the federal government

evaluates health and environmental risks associated with hazardous chemicals, making it more aligned with the industry's wishes.

It is a cause with far-reaching consequences for consumers and chemical companies, as the E.P.A. regulates some 80,000 different chemicals, many of them highly toxic and used in workplaces, homes and everyday products. If chemicals are deemed less risky, they are less likely to be subjected to heavy oversight and restrictions.

The effort is not new, nor is the decades-long debate over how best to identify and assess risks, but the industry has not benefited from such highly placed champions in government since the Reagan administration. The cause was taken up by Dr. Beck and others in the administration of President George W.

Bush, with some success, and met with resistance during the Obama administration. Now it has been aggressively revived under President Trump by an array of industry-backed political appointees and others.

Dr. Beck, who has a doctorate in environmental health, comes from a camp — firmly backed by the chemical industry — that says the government too often directs burdensome rules at what she has called “phantom risks.”

Other scientists and administrators at the E.P.A., including Wendy Cleland-Hamnett, until last month the agency’s top official overseeing pesticides and toxic chemicals, say the dangers are real and the pushback is often a tactic for deflecting accountability — and shoring up industry profits at the expense of public safety.

Document | E.P.A.'s Decision Not to Ban Chlorpyrifos The New York Times requested copies of email correspondence related to the March 2017 decision by the E.P.A. to reject a decade-old petition to ban chlorpyrifos, a widely used pesticide that research suggests may cause developmental delays in children exposed to it in drinking water or in farming communities. Here are those documents.

Since Mr. Trump's election, Dr. Beck's approach has been unabashedly ascendant, according to interviews with more than two dozen current and former E.P.A. and White House officials, confidential E.P.A. documents, and materials obtained through open-record requests.

In March, Scott Pruitt, the E.P.A. chief, overrode the recommendation of Ms.

Hamnett and agency scientists to ban the commercial use of the pesticide chlorpyrifos, blamed for developmental disabilities in children.

The E.P.A.'s new leadership also pressed agency scientists to re-evaluate a plan to ban certain uses of two dangerous chemicals that have caused dozens of deaths or severe health problems: methylene chloride, which is found in paint strippers, and trichloroethylene, which removes grease from metals and is used in dry cleaning.

“It was extremely disturbing to me,” Ms. Hamnett said of the order she received to reverse the proposed pesticide ban. “The industry met with E.P.A. political appointees. And then I was asked to change the agency’s stand.”

The E.P.A. and Dr. Beck declined

repeated requests to comment that included detailed lists of questions.

“No matter how much information we give you, you would never write a fair piece,” Liz Bowman, a spokeswoman for the E.P.A., said in an email. “The only thing inappropriate and biased is your continued fixation on writing elitist clickbait trying to attack qualified professionals committed to serving their country.”

Before joining the E.P.A., Ms. Bowman was a spokeswoman for the American Chemistry Council.

The conflict over how to define risk in federal regulations comes just as the E.P.A. was supposed to be fixing its backlogged and beleaguered chemical regulation program. Last year, after a decade of delays, Congress passed

bipartisan legislation that would push the E.P.A. to determine whether dozens of chemicals were so dangerous that they should be banned or restricted.

**Interactive Feature | The E.P.A.'s
Top 10 Toxic Threats, and
Industry's Pushback**

The chemical safety law was passed after Congress and the chemical industry reached a consensus that toxic chemical threats — or at least the fear of them — were so severe that they undermined consumer confidence in products on the market.

But now the chemical industry and many of the companies that use their compounds are praising the Trump administration's changed direction, saying new chemicals are getting faster regulatory reviews and existing chemicals

will benefit from a less dogmatic approach to determining risk.

“U.S. businesses, jobs and competitiveness depend on a functioning new chemicals program,” Calvin M. Dooley, a former congressman who is president of the American Chemistry Council, said in a statement. It was issued in June after Dr. Beck, his recent employee, pushed through many industry-friendly changes in her new role at the E.P.A., including the change in tracking legacy chemicals such as PFOA.

Anne Womack Kolton, a vice president at the council, said on Wednesday that Dr. Beck’s appointment was a positive development.

“We, along with many others, are glad that individuals who support credible science and thorough analysis as the basis

for policymaking have agreed to serve,” she said in an email. “Consistency, transparency and high quality science in the regulatory process are in everyone’s interests.”

The Trump administration’s shift, the industry has acknowledged, could have financial benefits. Otherwise, the industry may lose “millions of dollars and years of research invested in a chemical,” the American Chemistry Council and other groups wrote in a legal brief defending the changes Dr. Beck had engineered.

But consumer advocates and many longtime scientists, managers and administrators at the E.P.A. are alarmed by the administration’s priorities and worry that the new law’s anticipated crackdown on hazardous chemicals could be compromised.

Dr. Beck, left, and Ms. Hamnett, center, who clashed over changes to new toxic chemical rules, attended a signing ceremony with Mr. Pruitt. Video by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Video by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

“You are never going to have 100 percent certainty on anything,” Ms. Hamnett said. “But when you have a chemical that evidence points to is causing fatalities, you err more on the side of taking some action, as opposed to ‘Let’s wait and spend some more time and try to get the science entirely certain,’ which it hardly ever gets to be.”

The divergent approaches and yearslong face-off between Ms. Hamnett and Dr. Beck parallel the story of the chemical industry’s quest to keep the E.P.A.’s

enforcement arm at bay.

The two women, one a lawyer from New Jersey, the other a scientist from Long Island, have dedicated their lives to the issue of hazardous chemicals. Each's expertise is respected by her peers, but their perspectives couldn't be more dissimilar.

Ms. Hamnett, 63, spent her entire 38-year career at the E.P.A., joining the agency directly from law school as a believer in consumer and environmental protections. Dr. Beck, 51, did a fellowship at the E.P.A., but has spent most of her 29-year career elsewhere: in a testing lab at Estée Lauder, as a toxicologist in the Washington State Health Department, as a regulatory analyst in the White House and most recently with the chemical industry's trade group.

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images/toxics-hamnett/00toxics2-articleLarge.jpg" />

Ms. Hamnett in Falls Church, Va. Last month, she retired as the top official overseeing pesticides and toxic chemicals at the E.P.A. “I had become irrelevant,” she said about changes there under the Trump administration.

Jared Soares for The New York Times

Before Mr. Trump’s election, Ms. Hamnett would have been regarded as the hands-down victor in their professional tug of war. Her decision to retire in September amounted to a surrender of sorts, a powerful

acknowledgment of the two women's reversed fortunes under the Trump administration.

“I had become irrelevant,” Ms. Hamnett said.

Her farewell party in late August was held in the wood-paneled Map Room on the first floor of the E.P.A. headquarters, the same room where Mr. Trump had signed an executive order backed by big business that called for the agency to dismantle environmental protections.

Dr. Beck was among those who spoke. She thanked Ms. Hamnett for her decades of service. “I don't know what I am going to do without her,” she said, according to multiple people who attended the event.

Ms. Hamnett, in an interview, said she

had little trouble envisioning the future under the new leadership. “It’s time for me to go,” she said. “I have done what I could do.”

‘Unreasonable Risk of Injury’

Chemical regulation was not part of the E.P.A.’s original mission. But several environmental disasters in the early 1970s prompted Congress to extend the agency’s authority.

Industrial waste, including highly toxic PCBs, led to fish kills in the Hudson River. Chemicals from flame retardants were detected in livestock in Michigan, contaminating food across the state. And residents in Niagara Falls, N.Y., first started to notice a black, oily liquid in their basements, early hints of one of the worst environmental disasters in United States history: Love Canal.

President Gerald R. Ford signed the Toxic Substances Control Act in October 1976, giving the E.P.A. the authority to ban or restrict chemicals it deemed dangerous. It was hailed as a public health breakthrough.

“For the first time, the law empowers the federal government to control and even to stop production or use of chemical substances that may present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or environment,” a federal report said.

A few years later, after graduating from George Washington University Law School in 1979, Ms. Hamnett landed at the E.P.A. She arrived fully embracing its enhanced mission.

She had grown up in Trenton, where the words “Trenton Makes, the World Takes”

are affixed in neon to the side of a railroad bridge spanning the Delaware River.

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images/toxics-river/00regs-toxics12-articleLarge.jpg" />

A bridge over the Delaware River in Trenton, N.J., says, “Trenton Makes, the World Takes.” The Roebling Steel Company plant brought prosperity to the region, but also contaminated soil and groundwater with hazardous chemicals.

Mel Evans / Associated Press

Her childhood memories included passing by the 200-acre Roebling Steel

Company plant — named after the designer of the Brooklyn Bridge. At its peak, the plant was Trenton's largest employer, and it helped spread prosperity to the region.

But the company was also a chronic polluter. For decades, it dumped arsenic, chromium, lead and other hazardous chemicals, contaminating soil and groundwater. Ultimately, the pollution was so pervasive that the E.P.A. declared the property a Superfund cleanup site.

It was this legacy, as well as the congressional directive to the E.P.A. to protect the public from harm, that Ms. Hamnett said guided her.

During the Bush administration, she was drawn into a contentious debate involving lead paint that highlighted her resolve — and that of her opponents.

Few environmental hazards are as well understood as the dangers of lead in paint. Since it was first used in homes in the United States, more than a century ago, it has poisoned children. Even after it was banned in the late 1970s, it remained a threat, particularly when renovations took place in the tens of millions of homes with lead-based paint.

The E.P.A. set out to establish standards governing home renovations, and Ms. Hamnett came to the discussions with a strong perspective.

“What is the effect of exposure likely to be?” she recalled asking. “If it is likely to be a severe effect and result in a significant number of people exposed, if so, I am going to err on the side of safety.”

While the evidence was solid that lead caused learning disabilities and other problems for children, it was less definitive on whether it was also a factor in adult diseases.

To Ms. Hamnett and her colleagues, the results of multiple studies were compelling enough to establish an apparent link to cardiovascular disease in adults. They concluded in a report in 2006 that there was “stronger evidence for a relationship between lead exposure and blood pressure for adults,” citing it as a factor for aggressive safety requirements.

The home renovation industry filed protests over the “inappropriate and costly” rule with the Bush administration and Congress. Taking up its cause was a White House official with a reputation for assessing risk much differently: Dr. Beck.

Throwing ‘Sand in the Gears’

As the Bush administration took office, John D. Graham, who ran the White House office overseeing regulations, unveiled a plan to ease the government’s burden on business by reining in “the regulatory state.”

To that end, Mr. Graham hired scientists to review major federal regulations and make recommendations about their worthiness, something the E.P.A. itself had done over the years.

Dr. Beck, Mr. Graham said, was an excellent addition to his staff.

She had grown up in Oyster Bay, N.Y., an affluent suburb on Long Island, earned an undergraduate microbiology degree in 1988 from Cornell and a doctorate from

the University of Washington a decade later. Her dissertation, which examined how the sedative phenobarbital impacts the metabolism of the liver, started with words still relevant to her today: “Each day the human body is confronted with many potentially toxic substances in the form of food items, medicinal products and environmental agents.”

She started her career at Estée Lauder, where she helped develop preservatives used to extend the shelf life of cosmetics, and also designed laboratory tests to determine if products caused adverse reactions when applied to skin.

Interactive Feature | Trump Rules

When Mr. Graham hired her, she had been working as a science fellow at the E.P.A.’s center for environmental reviews. He described her as having

“street smarts and thick skin,” someone who did not need the limelight to be effective.

“Dr. Beck is easy to underestimate,” Mr. Graham said in an email.

When the proposed lead paint rule came along in 2006, Dr. Beck, in her White House role, pressed Ms. Hamnett and others in the E.P.A. to revise the language to diminish the link to cardiovascular disease in adults, Ms. Hamnett recalled, before letting the rule go into effect.

That was one marker in Dr. Beck’s journey to redefine the way the government evaluates risk. Though they repeatedly found themselves on opposite sides, Ms. Hamnett said that, in a way, she admired Dr. Beck’s effort during those years.

She described Dr. Beck as a voracious reader of scientific studies and agency reports, diving deep into footnotes and scientific data with a rigor matched by few colleagues. She combed through thousands of comments submitted on proposed rules. And she had a habit of reading the Federal Register, the daily diary of new federal rules.

All of it made Dr. Beck an intimidating and confident adversary, Ms. Hamnett recalled. “She’s very smart and very well informed,” she said.

But there was a destructive side to that confidence, others said. In particular, Dr. Beck was seen as an enemy of scientists and risk assessors at the E.P.A., willing to challenge the validity of their studies and impose her own judgment, said Robert M. Sussman, a lawyer who represented chemical industry clients during the Bush

administration and later became an E.P.A. lawyer and policy adviser under the Obama administration.

“Her goal was to throw sand in the gears to stop things from going forward,” said Mr. Sussman, who now is counsel to Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families, a coalition of consumer and environmental groups.

Jack Housenger, a biologist who served as the director of the E.P.A.’s pesticide program, had a more positive recollection. He said Dr. Beck asked reasonable questions about his findings related to a wood preservative used in playgrounds and outdoor decks that was being pulled from the market.

“She wanted us to present the uncertainties and ranges of risk,” said Mr. Housenger, who retired this year. “She

was trying to understand the methodology.”

Paul Noe, a lawyer who worked with Dr. Beck during the Bush administration, also said her critics got her wrong.

“What you really want to do as a government is to set priorities,” he said.

“If you don’t have a realistic way of distinguishing significant risks from insignificant ones, you are just going to get bogged down and waste significant resources, and that can impede public health and safety.”

One of the harshest criticisms of Dr. Beck’s tenure in the Bush White House came in 2007 from the nonpartisan National Academy of Sciences, which examined a draft policy she helped write proposing much stricter controls over the way the government evaluates risks.

“The committee agrees that there is room for improvement in risk assessment practices in the federal government,” the review said, but it described Dr. Beck’s suggestions as “oversimplified” and “fundamentally flawed.” It recommended her proposal be withdrawn.

Document | E.P.A. and Toxic Chemical Rules An internal struggle has broken out in the Environmental Protection Agency over how to regulate toxic chemicals. These documents tell the backstory of the tension, which emerged after the Trump administration named an industry insider as a top agency regulator.

Dr. Beck was so aggressive in second-guessing E.P.A. scientists that she became central to a special investigation by the House Committee on Science and

Technology.

The committee obtained copies of her detailed emails to agency officials and accused her of slowing progress in confirming drinking-water health threats presented by chemicals like perchlorate, used in rocket fuel. “Suppression of Environmental Science by the Bush Administration’s Office of Management and Budget,” the committee wrote in 2009, before describing Dr. Beck’s actions.

The opposition became so intense that Dr. Beck’s efforts started to get shut down.

First, the new risk assessment policy she had proposed was formally withdrawn.

Then, after Mr. Obama took office in 2009, Mr. Sussman recalled going to the White House along with Lisa P. Jackson,

the new E.P.A. administrator, to ask for a commitment to curb Dr. Beck's power.

“We told them that we need the White House out of the E.P.A. science program,” Mr. Sussman said. “We demanded that. And we got it.”

Continuing the Fight

During Mr. Obama's first term, Dr. Beck left the White House for the American Chemistry Council, whose members include Dow, DuPont and dozens of other major manufacturers and chemical companies.

As the trade association's senior regulatory scientist, she was perfectly positioned to continue her second-guessing of the E.P.A.'s science.

Now her detailed criticisms of the agency

came on trade association letterhead and in presentations at agency meetings and events.

“If the same person says the same thing three times, does this create a weight of evidence?” Dr. Beck said in a presentation in 2013, essentially mocking the scientific standards at the agency.

E.P.A. records show her challenging the agency’s scientific conclusions related to arsenic (used to manufacture semiconductors), tert-Butanol (used in perfumes and as an octane booster in gasoline), and 1-bromopropane (used in dry cleaning).

Her point was often the same: Did the scientists producing work that federal regulators relied on adequately justify all of the conclusions about any risks?

“Scientists today are more prolific than ever,” she said in a November 2014 presentation, later adding that “unfortunately, many of the scientific studies we read about in the news were not quite ready for prime time.”

But at the same time, the industry was confronting a much larger existential problem.

E.P.A. and government-funded academic researchers were raising serious health questions about the safety of a range of chemicals, including flame retardants in furniture and plastics in water bottles and children’s toys. Consumer confidence in the industry was eroding.

Some state legislatures, frustrated by the E.P.A.’s slow response and facing a consumer backlash, moved to increase their own authority to investigate and act

on the problems — threatening the chemical industry with an unwieldy patchwork of state rules and regulations.

Dr. Beck and other chemical industry representatives were dispatched to the E.P.A. and Congress to press for changes to the federal regulatory system that would standardize testing of the most worrisome existing chemicals and improve and accelerate the evaluation of new ones.

The resulting law, passed last year with Democratic and Republican support, gave both sides something they wanted. The chemical industry got pre-emption from most new state regulations, and environmentalists got assurances that new chemicals would be evaluated on health and safety risks alone, not financial considerations.

It was the most significant overhaul of the Toxic Substances Control Act since its enactment in the 1970s, and once again Ms. Hamnett was prepared to help shepherd it into place. The task was shaping up to be what she considered her final, crowning act at the E.P.A.

Ms. Hamnett was invited to the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, a part of the White House complex, to be present as Mr. Obama signed the bill into law. She was so excited that she arrived early and sneaked up to the stage to look at the papers Mr. Obama would be signing.

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images

toxics14/00regs-toxics10-
1508169447426-
articleLarge.jpg" />

President Barack Obama signing a chemical safety bill in June last year.

Zach Gibson for The New York Times

“Protecting people and the environment for decades to come,” she said, recalling her thoughts, as she excitedly stood on the stage. “At least, that is what we planned.”

Turning the Tables

They gathered in early June around a long conference table at the E.P.A. headquarters, the sunlight shining in from Constitution Avenue. In the crowd were Dr. Beck, Ms. Hamnett and other top agency officials charged with

regulating toxic chemicals, as well as environmentalists worried about last-minute changes to rules being pushed by the chemical industry.

Olga Naidenko, an immunologist specializing in children's health, said she was struck by the head-spinning scene. Dr. Beck, who had spent years trying to influence Ms. Hamnett and others to issue rules friendly to the chemical industry, was now sitting at the conference table as a government decision maker.

“I am running the show. I am now in the chair. And it is mine,” Dr. Naidenko, said, describing her impressions of Dr. Beck at the gathering.

The Obama-era leadership at the E.P.A., in its last weeks, had published drafts of two critical rules needed to start the new

chemical program. The rules detailed how the agency would choose the most risky chemicals to be tested or evaluated and how the hazards should be judged.

It would be up to Mr. Pruitt, the new E.P.A. chief, and his team to complete the process in time for a June deadline, set in the legislation.

Dr. Naidenko, a staff scientist at the Environmental Working Group, was there to plead with the agency to ignore a request from the American Chemistry Council to make more than a dozen last-minute changes, some pushed by Dr. Beck while she was at the council.

Dr. Beck did not seem convinced, recalled Dr. Naidenko and one of her colleagues, Melanie Benesh, a lawyer with the same organization.

“Tell me why you are concerned. What is it about?” Ms. Benesh and Ms. Hamnett each said they recalled Dr. Beck saying.

In fact, behind the scenes, the deed was already done.

Before Dr. Beck’s arrival, representatives from the E.P.A.’s major divisions had agreed on final wording for the rules that would be sent to the White House for approval. But they were told to wait until May 1, when Dr. Beck began her job as the acting assistant administrator for chemical safety.

Dr. Beck then spent her first weeks on the job pressing agency staff to rewrite the standards to reflect, in some cases, word for word, the chemical industry’s proposed changes, three staff members involved in the effort said. They asked not to be named for fear of losing their jobs.

Dr. Beck had unusual authority to make it happen.

When she was hired by the Trump administration, she was granted the status of “administratively determined” position. It is an unusual classification that means she was not hired based on a competitive process — as civil servants are — and she was also not identified as a political appointee. There are only about a dozen such posts at the E.P.A., among the 15,800 agency employees, and the jobs are typically reserved for technical experts, not managers with the authority to give orders.

Crucially, the special status meant that Dr. Beck did not have to abide by the ethics agreement Mr. Trump adopted in January, which bars political appointees in his administration from participating

for two years “in any particular matter involving specific parties that is directly and substantially related to my former employer or former clients, including regulations and contracts.”

Her written offer of employment, obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, also made it clear that Dr. Beck’s appointment was junior enough not to require Senate confirmation, which would have almost certainly delayed her arrival at the agency and prevented her from making changes to the rules ahead of the June deadline.

None of these arrangements raised concerns with the E.P.A.’s acting general counsel, Kevin S. Minoli, who issued a ruling on her unusual employment status. Mr. Minoli saw Dr. Beck’s background as a benefit, according to a memo he wrote that was reviewed by The Times.

“You have extensive prior experience with the regulated industry’s perspective and are already familiar with (and may well have authored) A.C.C. comments now under consideration,” he wrote, referring to the American Chemistry Council.

He added that Dr. Beck’s “unique expertise, knowledge and prior experience will ensure that the agency is able to consider all perspectives, including that of the regulated industry’s major trade association.”

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images/TOXICS-TEAR/ooREGS-TOXICS-DOC-articleLarge.jpg" />

In a letter, an E.P.A. official addressed Dr. Beck's ability to be involved in matters affecting her former employer.

Others at the E.P.A., however, were stunned at the free pass given to Dr. Beck.

“It was a clear demonstration this administration has been captured by the industry,” said Elizabeth Southerland, who served as the director of science and technology in the Office of Water until her retirement in July.

Getting Her Way

In the weeks leading up to the June deadline, Dr. Beck made clear what changes she wanted.

The conversations were polite, and Dr. Beck listened to counterarguments that

Ms. Hamnett and her team made, Ms. Hamnett said. But in most cases, Dr. Beck did not back down, demanding a variety of revisions, particularly related to how the agency defined risks.

It all had a familiar ring. Ms. Hamnett and the others had fielded many of the same demands from the American Chemistry Council and from Dr. Beck herself when she worked there. Ms. Hamnett took detailed notes in spiral notepads, excerpts from which she showed The Times.

One area of contention was Dr. Beck's insistence that the E.P.A. adopt precise definitions of terms and phrases used in imposing rules and regulations, such as "best available science" and "weight of the evidence."

The agency had repeatedly rejected the

idea, most recently in January, in part because the definitions were seen as a guise for opponents to raise legal challenges.

“These terms have and will continue to evolve with changing scientific methods and innovation,” the agency said in a Jan. 17 statement in the Federal Register, three days before Mr. Trump was sworn in. “Codifying specific definitions for these phrases in this rule may inhibit the flexibility and responsiveness of the agency to quickly adapt to and implement changing science.”

Another area of dispute involved the “all uses” standard for evaluating health threats posed by chemicals. Under that standard, the E.P.A. would consider any possible use of a chemical when determining how to regulate it; Dr. Beck, like the chemical industry, wanted the

E.P.A. to limit the evaluations to specific intended uses.

“There is no way we can look at thousands of uses,” Dr. Beck told Ms. Hamnett in one meeting in mid-May, according to Ms. Hamnett and her notes. “We can’t chase the last molecule.”

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images/toxics18/00regs-toxics18-articleLarge.jpg" />

Ms. Hamnett’s notes from meetings where changes in toxic chemical rules were discussed at the request of Dr. Beck, who had a history of second-guessing the E.P.A.’s scientists.

As the June deadline under the new law approached, Dr. Beck took control of the rewriting herself, a highly unusual step at the E.P.A., where expert Civil Service employees traditionally hold the rule-writing pen.

Ms. Hamnett said she did not try to stop Dr. Beck given she had the support of the agency's new leadership.

Mr. Noe, the lawyer who worked with Dr. Beck during the Bush administration, was not involved in the rewriting of the new rules. But he said it was wrong to interpret Dr. Beck's actions as pro-industry; instead, he said, she was a defender of rigorous science.

“Anyone who would question Nancy's ability or integrity does not know her at all and just has a political ax to grind,” he said.

Ms. Hamnett's handwritten notes, however, record increasingly urgent objections from across the agency, including from the Waste and Chemical Enforcement Division, the Office of Water and the Office of General Counsel.

“Everyone was furious,” said Ms. Southerland, the official from the Office of Water. “Nancy was just rewriting the rule herself. And it was a huge change. Everybody was stunned such a substantial change would be made literally in the last week.”

The general counsel's objections to the substance of the changes were among the most alarming.

Laurel Celeste, an agency lawyer, questioned whether the last-minute changes would leave the agency's rule-

making open to legal challenges. Her objections were outlined in a memo reviewed by The Times that was marked “confidential attorney client communication. Do not release under FOIA,” referring to the Freedom of Information Act.

Federal law requires rules to be a “logical outgrowth” of the administrative record. But Dr. Beck had demanded changes that the staff had rejected, meaning that the rule contained items that “differ so greatly from the proposal that they cannot be considered to be the ‘logical outgrowth’ of the proposal and the comments,” Ms. Celeste said.

Her memo, sent by email on May 30 to Dr. Beck and more than two dozen agency scientists and staff members, also raised concerns about the preamble, an important piece of any regulation that

must accurately reflect its contents.

“We are also concerned that, as currently drafted, the preamble lacks an adequate rationale for a number of final rule provisions that have changed significantly from the proposal,” Ms. Celeste wrote.

The objections were strongly worded, but they fell short of an important legal threshold — the formal filing of a “nonconcurrence” memo — that would have triggered further review of Dr. Beck’s actions. Several E.P.A. staff members said in interviews that they had been told by Mr. Pruitt’s top deputies to air their concerns in so-called concur-with-comment memos, which put objections on the record but allowed the process to move forward.

The rules, with Dr. Beck’s changes, were

sent to the White House and approved by the June deadline. Mr. Pruitt assembled the team in late June for a brief ceremony to celebrate the completion of the work.

“Everybody here worked very, very hard,” Ms. Hamnett said, as Mr. Pruitt signed his name, according to a video of the ceremony posted by the E.P.A.

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images/toxics16-sub/00regs-toxics16-sub-articleLarge.jpg" />

Calvin M. Dooley, a former congressman who is president of the American Chemistry Council. In May, Dr. Beck, his recent employee, pushed through many industry-friendly changes at the E.P.A.

Jabin Botsford / The New York Times

‘Not One of My Best Days’

Environmentalists were dismayed, but Ms. Hamnett emerged from the whirlwind process with some confidence that all was not lost.

While she disagreed with a number of Dr. Beck’s changes, she trusted that the E.P.A. staff would maintain its commitment to honor Congress’s intent in the 2016 legislation. That would translate into a rigorous crackdown on the most dangerous chemicals, regardless of the changes.

But her confidence in the E.P.A.’s resolve was fragile, and it had been shaken by other actions, including the order Ms. Hamnett received to reverse course on

banning the pesticide chlorpyrifos.

The order came before Dr. Beck's arrival at the agency, but Ms. Hamnett saw the industry's fingerprints all over it. Mr.

Pruitt's chief of staff, Ryan Jackson, instructed Ms. Hamnett to ignore the recommendation of agency scientists, she said.

The scientists had called for a ban based on research suggesting the pesticide might cause developmental disabilities in children.

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images/toxics-field/22reg-toxics-field-articleLarge.jpg" />

Farm workers in a field picking berries.

Chlorpyrifos, a pesticide blamed for developmental disabilities in children, is still widely used in agriculture. In March, Mr. Pruitt overrode agency scientists' recommendation to ban it.

Jim Wilson / The New York Times

To keep the pesticide on the market, under E.P.A. guidelines, the agency needed to have a “reasonable certainty” that no harm was being caused.

“The science and the law tell us this is the way to go,” Ms. Hamnett said of a ban.

But the reaction from her superiors was not about the science or the law, she said.

Instead, they queried her about Dow Chemical, the pesticide's largest manufacturer, which had been lobbying against a ban.

The clash is recorded in Ms. Hamnett notebook as well as in emails among Mr. Pruitt's top political aides, which were obtained by The Times.

"They are trying to strong arm us," Mr. Jackson wrote after meeting with Ms. Hamnett, who presented him with a draft petition to ban the pesticide.

Mr. Jackson, Ms. Hamnett's notebook shows, then asked her to come up with alternatives to a ban. He asserted, her notes show, that he did not want to be "forced into a box" by the petition.

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/image-note-tear/hamnett-note-tear-

articleLarge.png" />

Ms. Hamnett recorded Mr. Jackson's reaction to a pesticide ban in her notebook.

"I scared them," Mr. Jackson wrote in an email to a colleague about his demands on Ms. Hamnett and her team.

As a possible compromise, Ms. Hamnett's team had been talking to Dow about perhaps phasing out the pesticide instead of imposing an immediate ban. But Dow, after Mr. Trump's election, was suddenly in no mood to compromise, Ms. Hamnett recalled. Dow did not respond to requests for comment.

She now knew, she said, that the effort to ban the pesticide had been lost, something Mr. Jackson's emails celebrated.

“They know where this is headed,” Mr. Jackson wrote.

Just over a week later, Ms. Hamnett submitted a draft order that would deny the request for a ban.

“It was hard, very hard,” she said, worrying that the pesticide would continue to harm children of farmworkers. “That was not one of my best days.”

The episode is one reason she worries the E.P.A. will defer to the chemical industry as it begins to evaluate toxic chemicals under the standards created by the new law. She became particularly concerned because of a more recent exchange with Dr. Beck over methylene chloride, which is used in paint removers.

After more than a decade of research, the agency had concluded in January that methylene chloride was so hazardous that its use in paint removers should be banned.

Methylene chloride has been blamed in dozens of deaths, including that of a 21-year-old Tennessee man in April, who was overwhelmed by fumes as he was refinishing a bathtub.

“How is it possible that you can go to a home improvement store and buy a paint remover that can kill you?” Ms. Hamnett asked. “How can we let this happen?”

Furniture-refinishing companies and chemical manufacturers have urged the E.P.A. to focus on steps like strengthening warning labels, complaining that there are few reasonably priced alternatives.

Ms. Hamnett said Dr. Beck raised the possibility that people were not following the directions on the labels. She also suggested that only a small number of users had been injured. "Is it 1 percent?" Ms. Hamnett recalled Dr. Beck asking.

Ms. Hamnett said she was devastated by the line of questioning.

After years of successfully fending off Dr. Beck and her industry allies, the balance of power at the agency had shifted toward the industry.

<img class="span-asset-img " src="https://cdn1.nyt.com/images/toxics-postcard/00regs-toxics-postcard-articleLarge.jpg" />

A postcard received by Ms. Hamnett during the early months of the Trump administration, urging her to stay the course. The sender's information has been redacted by The New York Times.

She had long planned to wrap up her work at the agency soon, as her husband, David, had retired three years ago. On Sept. 1, Ms. Hamnett turned in her badge and joined him.

Mr. Pruitt has selected a replacement for Ms. Hamnett: Michael L. Dourson, a toxicologist who has spent the last two decades as a consultant helping businesses fight E.P.A. restrictions on the use of potentially toxic compounds. He is already at work at the agency in a temporary post while he awaits Senate confirmation.

The American Chemistry Council, and its members, are among the top private-sector sponsors of Mr. Dourson's research. Last year, he collaborated on a paper that was funded by the trade group. His fellow author was Dr. Beck.

To: Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tue 8/1/2017 2:47:50 PM
Subject: FW: Washington Post: EPA won't be able to do the 'right thing' under Trump, says latest protesting official, 8/1/17

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Sparacino, Jessica
Sent: Tuesday, August 1, 2017 10:37 AM
To: AO OPA OMR CLIPS <AO_OPA_OMR_CLIPS@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post: EPA won't be able to do the 'right thing' under Trump, says latest protesting official, 8/1/17

Washington Post

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/08/01/epa-doing-the-right-thing-is-not-possible-under-trump-says-resigning-official/?utm_term=.980cce53093e

EPA won't be able to do the 'right thing' under Trump, says latest protesting official

By: Joe Davidson, 8/1/17, 7:00 a.m.

Elizabeth “Betsy” Southerland loved her work at the Environmental Protection Agency.

Then Donald Trump and Scott Pruitt came along.

Now Southerland, who was director of science and technology in the agency's Office of Water, said she is “heartbroken about the impact of the new administration on environmental protection in this country.”

After 30 years at EPA, her last day was Monday.

Southerland becomes the latest in a series of protesting federal scientists. She denounced the destructive environmental policies of President Trump and EPA Administrator Pruitt. Family concerns played an important role in her decision to leave, but she also can't stomach the current direction of an agency that answers to a White House wallowing in disarray and disgrace.

In a statement planned for release Tuesday by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) and during email and phone interviews with The Washington Post, she talked about how "EPA has been the guiding light to make the 'right thing' happen for the greater good, including public health and safety."

But with Trump and Pruitt in charge, "that will not be possible under the current administration."

President Trump and many of his top aides have expressed skepticism about climate change, while others say human activity is to blame for global warming. So what's the administration's real position?

Their attack on environmental protections marks the "abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations," she said. "The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment." Furthermore, she warned that Trump's planned 31 percent EPA budget cut would lead to the loss of thousands of public- and private-sector jobs.

"There is no question," she said, "the administration is seriously weakening EPA's mission by vigorously pursuing an industry deregulation approach and defunding implementation of environmental programs."

Southerland went public with her opposition to Trump's environmental program, because she said "I felt it was my civic duty to explain the impact of this administration's policies on public health and safety."

A PhD in environmental science and engineering, Southerland called her more than four decades of environmental work, including three with EPA, “the most wonderful 40 years.” Two years ago she was honored with the Distinguished Presidential Rank Award, given to just 1 percent of Senior Executive Service members for “sustained extraordinary accomplishment.” In Southerland’s case, she was recognized for her work in lowering swimming health risks by developing new national bacteria water quality standards.

Raised in Alexandria and residing in Fairfax Station, Southerland, 68, is married, has two sons and enjoys hiking. She will volunteer with the [Environmental Protection Network](#), a group of former EPA staffers.

Southerland’s resignation comes during the same month a Union of Concerned Scientists [report](#) said Trump is creating a “hostile environment for scientific staff.”

That report was released the day after Interior Department scientist Joel Clement wrote a [Washington Post opinion article](#) saying Trump’s crowd retaliated against him “for speaking out publicly about the dangers that climate change poses to Alaska Native communities.”

From top climate policy official to accounting. Welcome to Trump's Department of Interior.

On July 19, the former top climate policy official at the Department of Interior filed a complaint and a whistleblower disclosure form with the Office of Special Counsel. The official, Joel Clement, says the Trump administration is threatening public health and safety by trying to silence scientists like him.

In March, Mike Cox also cited the dangers Alaska Natives face from climate change when he quit EPA. In a [letter to Pruitt](#), Cox said administration policies “are contrary” to those Americans want “to ensure the air their children breath is safe; the land they live, play, and hunt on to be free of toxic chemicals; and the water they drink, the lakes they swim in, and the rivers they fish in to be clean.”

Reacting to Southerland's remarks, EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox said that "it's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water."

Kyla Bennett, PEER's New England director, placed Southerland's departure in a broader context: "Increasingly principled professionals, who have proudly served administrations from both parties, are under orders to betray, rather than serve, the public interest by remaining at EPA."

But don't get the impression these examples of dissent are proof of revolt among federal employees. That is not the case.

"Everyone is focused on presenting all the facts to the new political team in hopes the facts will change their minds about defunding existing environmental programs and repealing existing rules," Southerland said by email. "I do not know even one EPA employee who is doing anything to sabotage the existing political team. They are all doing their absolute best to give the political all the facts so they can make the right decision if they are open-minded. I personally do not know anyone who is planning to resign in protest, but I can confirm that staff involved in the [regulatory] repeal efforts already underway are heartbroken."

She closed her written farewell to colleagues with a message that mixed rebuttals to Trump and Pruitt with the hope others in government will save us from them.

EPA suffers "from the temporary triumph of myth over truth. The truth is there is NO war on coal, there is NO economic crisis caused by environmental protection, and climate change IS caused by man's activities," she wrote using capital letters for emphasis.

"It may take a few years and even an environmental disaster, but I am confident that Congress and the courts will eventually restore all the environmental protections repealed by this administration because the majority of the American people recognize that this protection of public health and safety is right and it is just."

Jessica Sparacino

US Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Public Affairs Intern

(202) 564-5327

WJCN 2502J

To: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Love, Kelly A. Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]

Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K.

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Rateike, Bradley A.

Kennedy, Adam R.

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

From: Wilcox, Jahan

Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 9:29:39 PM

Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hey guys we pitched this because the same Washington Post reporter who wrote about Mike Cox is writing about this. My guess is that once WaPo writes about Elizabeth Southland, the story will get legs so we wanted to get in front of it all instead of having another controversy like the Mike Cox stuff.

Below is my pitch.

Earlier this spring, there was an EPA employee who was eligible for retirement and claimed he was quitting because of Trump and his proposed budget, when in reality he was just retiring because he was eligible for his pension. Of course the liberal Washington Post and other outlets jumped on the news.

●■■■■■■■■■ **The Washington Post: EPA staffer leaves with a bang, blasting agency policies under Trump – April 7, 2015**

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/07/epa-staffer-leaves-with-a-bang-blasting-agency-policies-under-trump/?utm_term=.bf260e6e228a

Well another employee is doing the same thing and she's claiming that due to President Trump's proposed budget she is quitting, but it's widely known that presidential budgets – no matter what party you are from – never get rubberstamped by Congress. Below is the WaPo inquiry along with along with why the employee is claiming to retire.

Additionally, would also point out that last year Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000. For comparison, a Senator or Congressman's salary is \$174,000 and the average American makes \$44,000 according the Census Bureau.

Curious if you would be interested in writing about this, because the left and environmentalists will make a big deal out of nothing.

"It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal

and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water." EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

OFF-THE-RECORD RESEARCH ...

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

From: Graham, Amy

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:26 PM

To: Love, Kelly A. **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** Bowman, Liz

<Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**; Rateike, Bradley A.

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO

Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Jahan has the background on this and will share momentarily.

From: Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO [mailto:Kelly.A.Love@v Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO < Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO < Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO
Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Looping in Amy as well

From: Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:22 PM
To: 'Bowman, Liz' <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO < Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO < Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO < Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy >
Subject: FW: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hi Liz,

This seems greatly exaggerated, but let us know if you have any talkers we should be using if asked.

Thanks,

Kelly

From: RNC War Room [mailto:Warroom@gop.com]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:06 PM

Subject: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hot Air

Jazz Shaw

July 31, 2017 – 4:01 PM

<http://hotair.com/archives/2017/07/31/another-epa-staffer-quits-trump-actually-retiring/><

Remember when Mike Cox, a climate change adviser at the EPA, “quit” his job because of his disagreements with the Trump administration and sent in a “scathing letter of resignation?” As it turned out, Cox was actually retiring and had been eligible for retirement for some time.

Well, that pattern is continuing this week. Elizabeth Southerland, the director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA’s Office of Water, unceremoniously quit today. Her claimed reasons included problems with the President’s proposed budget and how much was being allocated to the EPA. This is a rather frivolous reason because, as has been well documented in the past, whatever budget the President initially submits is little more than a wish list which rarely carries any weight. Congress controls the power of the purse, so her anger should be directed at them if the funding is not to her liking.

But as I indicated above, most of this appears to be a smokescreen anyway. Southerland is eligible for retirement and it would be surprising indeed if she chose to eschew her government employee retirement benefits in some sort of principled stand. Those benefits should be impressive to say the least, since they are always based on the time in service and best salary of the worker. In the case of Ms. Southerland, she was doing quite well for herself on the taxpayer dime. In 2016 she earned just shy of a quarter million dollars, and has done similarly well (if a bit short of that) in other years dating back to at least 2011 with the EPA when she earned \$215K. Good work if you can get it to be sure, so if she elects to walk out the door and forfeit her benefits because of her moral revulsion to the agency providing them to her, expect to see a column here from me glorifying her for her remarkable moral fortitude. (But I’m not holding my breath.)

For their part, the EPA doesn't seem to be buying the "retirement" story either, but are still wishing Ms. Southerland a gracious bon voyage. This is from EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox.

"It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water."

A generous and gracious farewell. I, for one, will wait to see if Elizabeth proves me wrong and turns down all those sweet taxpayer funded retirement benefits. Perhaps she could donate them all to the federal government's general fund to help out the less fortunate.

Disclaimer: The Republican National Committee provided the above article as a service to its employees and other selected individuals. Any opinions expressed therein are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the RNC.

To: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**
From: Graham, Amy
Sent: Sat 9/9/2017 11:59:37 PM

Please note the following exclusions and misleading information in Michael Biesecker's article:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process/Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

###

To: Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 9:48:28 PM
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Thanks buddy.

From: Greenwalt, Sarah
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:08 AM
To: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Cc: Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>; Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process please note that it's SouthERland.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record.
What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg <anya.bourg2@gmail.com>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James
<james.jacoby@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James
<james.jacoby@gmail.com> wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,
<james.jacoby@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well yesterday afternoon; I'm available anytime to field questions or concerns. Please let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below. I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM,
James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Great talking to you
Jahan. Thanks for the
call. You can reach me
anytime at 917.484.0340.

Here's the link to the 60
Minutes piece I produced
featuring then-Senator
Tom Coburn:

[http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-
usa/](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/)

And here is the original
letter I sent requesting the
interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship

public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a
balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will

also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to
put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into
a
larger
economic
and
political
context
for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including

a
wide
range
of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is
to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,

fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people
look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look
at
the
IRS."
This
documentary
will
trace
the

recent
history
of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in
his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts

to
roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to
spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in
the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative

economic
impact
of
the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,
without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If possible, we would like to arrange an on-camera interview with Mr. Pruitt. We are also interested in following him on any upcoming media events on his Back to Basics tour. We can discuss that further, but our primary objective is to sit down with Mr.

Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this

request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell
is 917.484.0340

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: jazz shaw
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 7:10:04 PM
Subject: Re: Hello from James Hewitt

Dude! Outstanding! What a great spot for you to land. Very happy for you. And I needed one more column for today so I'll use this. Added your new number into my contact list. I think you still have mine. 607-341-8484. Give my best to the Secretary.

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 3:05 PM, Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey Jazz,

Wanted to let you know that I recently joined the EPA public affairs office—please don't hesitate to reach out if you or Ed need anything, my work cell number is 202-578-6141. Thought I would also flag this for you, because it's a pretty interesting development coming out of the agency.

Best,

James

Earlier this spring, there was an EPA employee who was eligible for retirement and claimed he was quitting because of Trump and his proposed budget, when in reality he was just retiring because he was eligible for his pension. Of course the Washington Post and other mainstream outlets jumped on the news.

- **The Washington Post: EPA staffer leaves with a bang, blasting agency policies under Trump – April 7, 2015**

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/07/epa-staffer-leaves-with-a-bang-blasting-agency-policies-under-trump/?utm_term=.bf260e6e228a

Well another employee is doing the same thing and she's claiming that due to President Trump's proposed budget she is quitting, but it's widely known that presidential budgets – no matter what party you are from – never get rubberstamped by Congress. Below is the WaPo inquiry along with along with why the employee is claiming to retire.

Additionally, would also point out that last year Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000. For comparison, a Senator or Congressman's salary is \$174,000 and the average American makes \$44,000 according the Census Bureau.

Curious if you would be interested in writing about this, because the left and environmentalists will make a big deal out of nothing.

“It’s hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she’s eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water.” EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

OFF-THE-RECORD RESEARCH ...

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

According to McClatchy, history has proven that the President’s budget is dead on arrival because Congress has the power of the purse. “The nation’s new president unveiled a budget proposal Thursday. But its fate is likely to be the same as most presidential budgets: It won’t pass. Historically, lawmakers don’t pass presidential budgets introduced to much fanfare — like President Donald Trump’s was Thursday — even if the president is of the same party that controls Congress. ‘It’s kind of a tradition to declare the new president’s budget ‘dead on arrival,’ said Robert Bixby, executive director of the Concord Coalition, a

nonpartisan budget watchdog group. 'Congress is going to do what it is going to do.'" ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

According to McClatchy, Congress will move forward with their own budget.

"Trump's fellow Republicans control both chambers of Congress, but even so lawmakers are expected to move forward with their own budget blueprint this spring, as they traditionally have done." ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

The White House's Budget no matter who is in power has become increasingly irrelevant as Congress has the power of the purse. "First, no matter who has been in the White House in recent years the president's budget has become increasingly irrelevant to what, if anything, gets done. This is not Obama-dependent: it has been happening over the past few decades." ([Forbes](#), 02/01/16)

In 2015, President Obama's budget received 1 vote. "President Obama's budget suffered its latest ignominious defeat when the Senate rejected it on a 98-1 vote Tuesday evening, capping off the first votes of the budget season." ([The Washington Times](#), 03/24/15)

In 2012, not a single person in the Senate or the House voted for President Obama's budget. "President Obama's budget suffered a second embarrassing defeat Wednesday, when senators voted 99-0 to reject it. Coupled with the House's rejection in March, 414-0, that means Mr. Obama's budget has failed to win a single vote in support this year." ([The Washington Times](#), 05/16/12)

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said that he expects Congress to ignore the budget. "Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell has already said he expects the Republican-led Congress to largely ignore the proposal, saying in an interview last week with Bloomberg News that early versions reflected priorities that "aren't necessarily ours." ([Bloomberg](#), 05/22/17)

Senator Lindsey Graham said presidential budgets do not fare well. "Historically, presidential budgets do not fare well with Congress," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

Senate Appropriations Committee Member John Hoeven said this budget is a starting point. "'The budget's a starting point. We'll go to work from there,' said Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee." ([The Associated Press](#), 05/22/17)

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>

From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>

Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT

To: Press <Press@epa.gov>

Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

--

Jazz Shaw

All Purpose Pundit

Weekend Editor: hotair.com

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy (private)

To: Matthew.Vespa@townhall.com[Matthew.Vespa@townhall.com];
From: Hewitt, James
Sent: Mon 9/11/2017 2:33:33 PM
Subject: hey Matt

Hey Matt,

Just tried to give you a call but I wanted to put this on you radar today on some shoddy MSM reporting from over the weekend.

Without attribution ...

This weekend, the Associated Press just published another false story about EPA here is where it's embarrassing for them. The Associated Press reporters Michael Bisecker and Jason Dearen and their editor Julie Pace, allowed a paid intern who was at the EPA for less than one-year to speak into their story and portray him as some sort of expert.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/ap-exclusive-flooding-threatens-toxic-sites-irma-nears-49718959>

It might be worth emailing Julie Pace (jpace@ap.org) or Sally Buzbee (sbuzbee@ap.org) and ask them if they think it's misleading for the Associated Press to cite a paid intern who no experience regarding toxic Superfund sites and portray him as some type of EPA expert.

The Associated Press reports that Stephen Sweeney conducted a Superfund flooding study, when his LinkedIn page shows that he was merely support staff. “The EPA needs to do a better job helping people who live near Superfund sites stay informed with accurate information, said Stephen Sweeney, a former employee in EPA's office of policy and one of the American University researchers who conducted the Superfund flooding study. ‘These residents need to be aware of their surroundings, and what could be in their water and the floodwater,’ Sweeney said. ‘There needs to be some sort of public communication. Either mass distribution of information or evacuating residents — it's up to the agency to make that call.’” (The Associated Press, [AP Exclusive: Flooding threatens toxic sites as Irma nears](#), 09/09/17)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sweeneystephen1>

Additionally, according to Federal Data Center on all government employees, Stephen J. Sweeny was a paid intern – with the official title of Administration and Office Support Student Trainee. “Sweeney, Stephen J: GS 04: Annual Salary \$31,521: Official Title:

Washington Administration and Office Support Student Trainee.” (www.fedsdatacenter.com, Accessed 09/09/17)

The Associated Press also cited former EPA employee Betsy Southerland who was caught lying about why she left the agency. “A risk analysis by EPA concluded in 2012 that flooding at such sites in South Florida could pose a risk to public health by spreading contaminated soil and groundwater. Flooding could disturb dangerous pollutants and wash it onto nearby property or contaminate groundwater, including personal wells, said Elizabeth “Betsy” Southerland, who retired last month as director of science and technology in EPA’s Office of Water after 30 years at the agency. ‘The agency needs to quickly respond with careful monitoring after the storm,’ said Southerland, who has criticized EPA’s current leadership under President Donald Trump.” (The Associated Press, [AP Exclusive: Flooding threatens toxic sites as Irma nears](#), 09/09/17)

Response documents to a FOIA request for Elizabeth Southerland, who made more than \$200,000 per year, reveal she did not retire because of Trump. “A senior employee at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) made a big stink about leaving the agency earlier this month over President Trump’s proposed 2018 budget and the direction of the new administration, but new documents show she might not have been telling the whole story. Elizabeth Southerland penned a memo to her EPA colleagues in which she lamented potential budget cuts to the agency outlined in Trump’s FY18 budget, released in May. Presidential budgets are rarely, if ever, approved let alone enacted. Still, Southerland wrote in her retirement memo: [T]he President’s FY18 budget proposes cuts to state and tribal funding as draconian as the cuts to EPA, while at the same time reassigning a number of EPA responsibilities to the states and tribes. Later in the memo, she continued her war on the Trump administration, declaring: “It may take a few years and even an environmental disaster, but I am confident that Congress and the courts will eventually restore all the environmental protections repealed by this administration because the majority of the American people recognize that this protection of public health and safety is right and it is just.” That memo went public August 1, but documents obtained by NTK Network through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request reveal Southerland, who made headlines for her parting shots at the Trump administration, may have left out key details about her departure. In an email to a colleague dated July 26, 2017, Southerland explained her retirement decision was announced internally in June, and gives the reason why: Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” ([Need To Know Network](#), 08/28/17)

To: jazz shaw [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
From: Hewitt, James
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 7:14:07 PM
Subject: RE: Hello from James Hewitt

Much appreciated! I'm sure we'll be talking more in the coming weeks and I will pass that along to SP.

From: jazz shaw [mailto:Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 3:10 PM
To: Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Hello from James Hewitt

Dude! Outstanding! What a great spot for you to land. Very happy for you. And I needed one more column for today so I'll use this. Added your new number into my contact list. I think you still have mine. [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy] Give my best to the Secretary.

On Mon, Jul 31, 2017 at 3:05 PM, Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey Jazz,

Wanted to let you know that I recently joined the EPA public affairs office—please don't hesitate to reach out if you or Ed need anything, my work cell number is 202-578-6141. Thought I would also flag this for you, because it's a pretty interesting development coming out of the agency.

Best,

James

Earlier this spring, there was an EPA employee who was eligible for retirement and claimed he was quitting because of Trump and his proposed budget, when in reality he was just retiring because he was eligible for his pension. Of course the Washington Post and other mainstream outlets jumped on the news.

- **The Washington Post: EPA staffer leaves with a bang, blasting agency policies under Trump – April 7, 2015**

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/07/epa-staffer-leaves-with-a-bang-blasting-agency-policies-under-trump/?utm_term=.bf260e6e228a

Well another employee is doing the same thing and she's claiming that due to President Trump's proposed budget she is quitting, but it's widely known that presidential budgets – no matter what party you are from – never get rubberstamped by Congress. Below is the WaPo inquiry along with along with why the employee is claiming to retire.

Additionally, would also point out that last year Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000. For comparison, a Senator or Congressman's salary is \$174,000 and the average American makes \$44,000 according the Census Bureau.

Curious if you would be interested in writing about this, because the left and environmentalists will make a big deal out of nothing.

“It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water.” EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

OFF-THE-RECORD RESEARCH ...

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

[agency/southerland-elizabeth](#), Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

According to McClatchy, history has proven that the President's budget is dead on arrival because Congress has the power of the purse. "The nation's new president unveiled a budget proposal Thursday. But its fate is likely to be the same as most presidential budgets: It won't pass. Historically, lawmakers don't pass presidential budgets introduced to much fanfare — like President Donald Trump's was Thursday — even if the president is of the same party that controls Congress. 'It's kind of a tradition to declare the new president's budget 'dead on arrival,' said Robert Bixby, executive director of the Concord Coalition, a nonpartisan budget watchdog group. 'Congress is going to do what it is going to do.'" ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

According to McClatchy, Congress will move forward with their own budget.

"Trump's fellow Republicans control both chambers of Congress, but even so lawmakers are expected to move forward with their own budget blueprint this spring, as they traditionally have done." ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

The White House's Budget no matter who is in power has become increasingly irrelevant as Congress has the power of the purse. "First, no matter who has been in the White House in recent years the president's budget has become increasingly irrelevant to what, if anything, gets done. This is not Obama-dependent: it has been happening over the past few decades." ([Forbes](#), 02/01/16)

In 2015, President Obama's budget received 1 vote. "President Obama's budget suffered its latest ignominious defeat when the Senate rejected it on a 98-1 vote Tuesday evening, capping off the first votes of the budget season." ([The Washington Times](#), 03/24/15)

In 2012, not a single person in the Senate or the House voted for President Obama's budget. "President Obama's budget suffered a second embarrassing defeat Wednesday, when senators voted 99-0 to reject it. Coupled with the House's rejection in March, 414-0, that means Mr. Obama's budget has failed to win a single vote in support this year." ([The Washington Times](#), 05/16/12)

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said that he expects Congress to ignore the budget. "Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell has already said he expects the Republican-led Congress to largely ignore the proposal, saying in an interview last week with Bloomberg News that early versions reflected priorities that "aren't necessarily ours." ([Bloomberg](#), 05/22/17)

Senator Lindsey Graham said presidential budgets do not fare well.

"Historically, presidential budgets do not fare well with Congress," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

Senate Appropriations Committee Member John Hoeven said this budget is a starting point. "The budget's a starting point. We'll go to work from there," said

Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee." ([The Associated Press](#), 05/22/17)

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>

From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>

Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT

To: Press <Press@epa.gov>

Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that

they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

--

Jazz Shaw

All Purpose Pundit

Weekend Editor: hotair.com

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy (private)

To: jazzshaw(Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy)
From: Hewitt, James
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 7:05:10 PM
Subject: Hello from James Hewitt

Hey Jazz,

Wanted to let you know that I recently joined the EPA public affairs office—please don't hesitate to reach out if you or Ed need anything, my work cell number is 202-578-6141. Thought I would also flag this for you, because it's a pretty interesting development coming out of the agency.

Best,

James

Earlier this spring, there was an EPA employee who was eligible for retirement and claimed he was quitting because of Trump and his proposed budget, when in reality he was just retiring because he was eligible for his pension. Of course the Washington Post and other mainstream outlets jumped on the news.

- **The Washington Post: EPA staffer leaves with a bang, blasting agency policies under Trump – April 7, 2015**

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/07/epa-staffer-leaves-with-a-bang-blasting-agency-policies-under-trump/?utm_term=.bf260e6e228a

Well another employee is doing the same thing and she's claiming that due to President Trump's proposed budget she is quitting, but it's widely known that presidential budgets – no matter what party you are from – never get rubberstamped by Congress. Below is the WaPo inquiry along with along with why the employee is claiming to retire.

Additionally, would also point out that last year Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000. For comparison, a Senator or Congressman's salary is \$174,000 and the average American makes \$44,000 according the Census Bureau.

Curious if you would be interested in writing about this, because the left and environmentalists will make a big deal out of nothing.

“It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish

Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water.” EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

OFF-THE-RECORD RESEARCH ...

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

According to McClatchy, history has proven that the President’s budget is dead on arrival because Congress has the power of the purse. “The nation’s new president unveiled a budget proposal Thursday. But its fate is likely to be the same as most presidential budgets: It won’t pass. Historically, lawmakers don’t pass presidential budgets introduced to much fanfare — like President Donald Trump’s was Thursday — even if the president is of the same party that controls Congress. ‘It’s kind of a tradition to declare the new president’s budget ‘dead on arrival,’ said Robert Bixby, executive director of the Concord Coalition, a nonpartisan budget watchdog group. ‘Congress is going to do what it is going to do.’” (McClatchy, 03/16/17)

According to McClatchy, Congress will move forward with their own budget.

“Trump’s fellow Republicans control both chambers of Congress, but even so lawmakers are expected to move forward with their own budget blueprint this spring, as they traditionally have done.” (McClatchy, 03/16/17)

The White House's Budget no matter who is in power has become increasingly irrelevant as Congress has the power of the purse. "First, no matter who has been in the White House in recent years the president's budget has become increasingly irrelevant to what, if anything, gets done. This is not Obama-dependent: it has been happening over the past few decades." ([Forbes](#), 02/01/16)

In 2015, President Obama's budget received 1 vote. "President Obama's budget suffered its latest ignominious defeat when the Senate rejected it on a 98-1 vote Tuesday evening, capping off the first votes of the budget season." ([The Washington Times](#), 03/24/15)

In 2012, not a single person in the Senate or the House voted for President Obama's budget. "President Obama's budget suffered a second embarrassing defeat Wednesday, when senators voted 99-0 to reject it. Coupled with the House's rejection in March, 414-0, that means Mr. Obama's budget has failed to win a single vote in support this year." ([The Washington Times](#), 05/16/12)

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said that he expects Congress to ignore the budget. "Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell has already said he expects the Republican-led Congress to largely ignore the proposal, saying in an interview last week with Bloomberg News that early versions reflected priorities that "aren't necessarily ours." ([Bloomberg](#), 05/22/17)

Senator Lindsey Graham said presidential budgets do not fare well. "Historically, presidential budgets do not fare well with Congress," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

Senate Appropriations Committee Member John Hoevan said this budget is a starting point. "'The budget's a starting point. We'll go to work from there,' said Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee." ([The Associated Press](#), 05/22/17)

Begin forwarded message:

Resent-From: <Press@epa.gov>
From: "Davidson, Joe" <joe.davidson@washpost.com>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 12:55:28 PM EDT
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: @JoeDavidsonWP

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]; Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Pruitt, Scott[Pruitt.Scott@epa.gov]
Cc: Michael Cox [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
From: Michael Cox
Sent: Sat 10/28/2017 3:05:57 AM
Subject: Re: September 26th LA Times Article

I have now been forwarded two more articles where you continue to talk about my "faux outrage" and my "six-figure pension".

Do you have no shame?

You are telling lies?

Please stop?

What happened to the EPA I worked for since 1987?

If you only understood how low the moral is with EPA staff, but I assume you do not care..

Your job is to protect the human health and the environment of American citizens, not protect the fossil fuel industry.

Please think about the health of your children and grandchildren and the environment you want them to inherit.

Happy to discuss.

Michael Cox

[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]

I am writing in response to your comments that were included in an article by Evan Halper on September 26 in the Los Angeles Times (*Civil servants charge Trump is sidelining workers with expertise on climate change, environment*). In the article you are quoted as saying:

We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees," agency spokesman Jahan Wilcox wrote in an email. "In their own words, Mr. Cox said he was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer-funded pension and we wish them the best."

I would like to provide a response to several of the statements made above.

"We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees"

I am sure you believe this is the case. However, career EPA employees who I talk with in the Regional offices, HQs, and the Labs do not share this belief. What I hear are employees who are not consulted on issues; learn about decisions via the press; and are demoralized because of the push by Administrator Pruitt to cut the EPA budget and staff. Of course you will dispute this, but I can only relate what I hear from friends and colleagues with whom I worked for several decades.

Also, please correct me if I am wrong, but my understanding is that Administrator Pruitt, since becoming Administrator, has not visited the EPA Regions or Labs to meet career EPA employees. The exceptions are random visits to Superfund sites or to Texas after hurricane Harvey. Please ask Administrator Pruitt to honor his commitment to listen and learn from EPA staff that he made during his first address to EPA staff.

“Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer-funded pension and we wish them the best”

You state that both Ms. Southerland and I retired, which is true. What I do not understand is what you mean by the phrase “Despite the faux outrage”. Faux of course meaning “fake” or fake outrage, which I assume means “untrue” or a more severe interpretation “lies”. This interpretation is consistent with the use of “fake news” by other Administration officials to indicate something they do not agree with.

It is true that the criticism and comments I have made about the direction of EPA are my opinions. However, they are based on over 25 years of working at EPA and, in the case of Ms. Southerland, over 40 years. I would not characterize my opinions as “faux outrage”. If the feedback and support from career EPA employees that I received after my retirement is any gauge, I think I nailed it.

In terms of the “six-figure taxpayer-funded pension”, I am very mindful that my pension is paid for by taxpayers. I am very thankful that we are lucky enough as Federal employees to have a pension when the majority of Americans are not so lucky. However, I take exception to the idea that I receive a six-figure pension (I guess if you count the numbers after the decimal point then yes I do have a seven-figure pension). In summary:

Total Gross Yearly Benefits including health benefits = \$48,991.68

Total Net Yearly Benefits (minus my share of health benefits and Federal Income Tax) = \$39,163.20.

I am certainly not complaining about the pension, but want you to understand that stating I have a six-figure pension is wrong and feeds into the false narrative of over-compensated Federal employees. If you would like to change the Federal employee pension system, I would suggest you lobby your Congressional representatives.

“...and we wish them the best”

I may be reading into the words, but this seems so disingenuous and insincere to wish Ms. Southerland and myself the best when you just called us liars and greedy.

Emails to EPA Beachhead Team Members

I am enclosing two emails I sent to Mr. Don Benton and Mr. Doug Erickson (members of the EPA Beach Head Team) when I worked at EPA. I provided them with some ideas on how Administrator Pruitt could work better with EPA staff. I think the comments are still relevant today.

Finally, I know there are bigger issues in the U.S. and the world than a few words in an article in the LA Times. However, I think the direction Administrator Pruitt is taking EPA is wrong, and in the end the people of the U.S. and the world will be the ones who are harmed. EPA is looked upon by the world as a shining example of how a country should do environmental protection and protect its citizens. I continue to believe the majority of American citizens support the EPA. It saddens me to see the organization that I, and many of my friends and colleagues, have worked so hard to make into a great organization now being sacrificed on the altar of ideology. I know you have a tough job in defending, in many cases, the indefensible. But please, instead of dismissing any criticism of EPA outright, ask yourself and others around you that maybe this Administration is going too far in trying to reshape EPA and jeopardizing the health of the American people and protection of our valuable environmental resources.

On Wed, Sep 27, 2017 at 12:34 PM, Michael Cox <**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**> wrote:

I am writing in response to your comments that were included in an article by Evan Halper on September 26 in the Los Angeles Times (*Civil servants charge Trump is sidelining workers with expertise on climate change, environment*). In the article you are quoted as saying:

We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees,” agency spokesman Jahan Wilcox wrote in an email. “In their own words, Mr. Cox said he was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer-funded pension and we wish them the best.”

I would like to provide a response to several of the statements made above.

“We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees”

I am sure you believe this is the case. However, career EPA employees who I talk with in the

Regional offices, HQs, and the Labs do not share this belief. What I hear are employees who are not consulted on issues; learn about decisions via the press; and are demoralized because of the push by Administrator Pruitt to cut the EPA budget and staff. Of course you will dispute this, but I can only relate what I hear from friends and colleagues with whom I worked for several decades.

Also, please correct me if I am wrong, but my understanding is that Administrator Pruitt, since becoming Administrator, has not visited the EPA Regions or Labs to meet career EPA employees. The exceptions are random visits to Superfund sites or to Texas after hurricane Harvey. Please ask Administrator Pruitt to honor his commitment to listen and learn from EPA staff that he made during his first address to EPA staff.

“Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer-funded pension and we wish them the best”

You state that both Ms. Southerland and I retired, which is true. What I do not understand is what you mean by the phrase “Despite the faux outrage”. Faux of course meaning “fake” or fake outrage, which I assume means “untrue” or a more severe interpretation “lies”. This interpretation is consistent with the use of “fake news” by other Administration officials to indicate something they do not agree with.

It is true that the criticism and comments I have made about the direction of EPA are my opinions. However, they are based on over 25 years of working at EPA and, in the case of Ms. Southerland, over 40 years. I would not characterize my opinions as “faux outrage”. If the feedback and support from career EPA employees that I received after my retirement is any gauge, I think I nailed it.

In terms of the “six-figure taxpayer-funded pension”, I am very mindful that my pension is paid for by tax payers. I am very thankful that we are lucky enough as Federal employees to have a pension when the majority of Americans are not so lucky. However, I take exception to the idea that I receive a six-figure pension (I guess if you count the numbers after the decimal point then yes I do have a seven-figure pension). In summary:

Total Gross Yearly Benefits including health benefits = \$48,991.68

Total Net Yearly Benefits (minus my share of health benefits and Federal Income Tax) = \$39,163.20.

I am certainly not complaining about the pension, but want you to understand that stating I have a six-figure pension is wrong and feeds into the false narrative of over-compensated Federal

employees. If you would like to change the Federal employee pension system, I would suggest you lobby your Congressional representatives.

“...and we wish them the best”

I may be reading into the words, but this seems so disingenuous and insincere to wish Ms. Southerland and myself the best when you just called us liars and greedy.

Emails to EPA Beachhead Team Members

I am enclosing two emails I sent to Mr. Don Benton and Mr. Doug Erickson (members of the EPA Beach Head Team) when I worked at EPA. I provided them with some ideas on how Administrator Pruitt could work better with EPA staff. I think the comments are still relevant today.

Finally, I know there are bigger issues in the U.S. and the world than a few words in an article in the LA Times. However, I think the direction Administrator Pruitt is taking EPA is wrong, and in the end the people of the U.S. and the world will be the ones who are harmed. EPA is looked upon by the world as a shining example of how a country should do environmental protection and protect its citizens. I continue to believe the majority of American citizens support the EPA. It saddens me to see the organization that I, and many of my friends and colleagues, have worked so hard to make into a great organization now being sacrificed on the altar of ideology. I know you have a tough job in defending, in many cases, the indefensible. But please, instead of dismissing any criticism of EPA outright, ask yourself and others around you that maybe this Administration is going too far in trying to reshape EPA and jeopardizing the health of the American people and protection of our valuable environmental resources.

Michael Cox

To: Pruitt, Scott[Pruitt.Scott@epa.gov]
From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Sent: Thur 8/3/2017 4:12:58 PM
Subject: Bring Science back to EPA

I understand Elizabeth Southerland has resigned her position with the EPA because of Scott Pruitt's and the new leadership destructive policies to our environment and health. Replacing scientist with corporate and political appointees is abhorrent to me.

It is very important that Federal Regulators monitor corporate actions. They will not do it on their own. And why would they if no requirement exists or is enforced. Doing the right thing would just cost them money; money their competitors will not spend.

Recently, AL.com reported that a company killed all aquatic life downstream of their operations on Buck Creek. The penalty - \$32,000. What a sin.

http://www.al.com/news/birmingham/index.ssf/2017/07/buck_creek_pollution.html

--

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

To: Pruitt, Scott[Pruitt.Scott@epa.gov]
From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Sent: Sun 9/17/2017 2:17:25 PM
Subject: The EPA: to protect human health and the environment

Dear Mr. Pruitt,

What is the role of the EPA? It is to protect human health and the environment. It does not exist to promote economic development! I think this is a the best description I've read of who you really are and what you are doing at the EPA: 'If there was ever an example of the fox guarding the henhouse, this is it.' This quote comes from Michael Mann a noted climate scientist at Penn State Univ. Let's go back to something you said in March. You made remarks on the CNBC program 'Squawk Box' saying: 'we need to continue the debate and continue the review and the analysis' over climate change. You went on to say that: 'I think that measuring with precision human activity on the climate is something very challenging to do, and there's tremendous disagreement about the degree of impact, so no, I would not agree that it's a primary contributor to the global warming that we see.'

As you are aware and quite proud of I imagine, these words have put you at odds with the overwhelming majority of scientists, most world leaders and your predecessors at the agency. We know you. You have been a relentless opponent of basic pollution limits, the kind that protect us from mercury, smog, arsenic and other deadly air toxins. You have even questioned whether toxic mercury pollution is hazardous to public health. I hope your wife serves you a nice, big dose of mercury and arsenic every day in your coffee since you find them so safe.

And we know what kind of man you proudly serve. A self-serving man who has been a pathological liar, for his entire life. A president of the United States who thinks it's funny to tweet a picture of himself hitting a golf ball that knocks down Hillary Clinton; a misogynist who attacks women and brags about it, because she is more intelligent than he is. You too surely have the same low standards of conduct Mr. Pruitt, and are an embarrassment to your own family.

Let's look at what you have done since heading the EPA regarding 'measuring with precision human activity on the climate...'. You have shut down studies on coal and oil, which is what you came to do. You have promised to be vigilant in protecting the rights of **our** entrepreneurs, and by this you obviously mean, giving the oil and gas industry whatever it wants. The EPA postponed a long-planned rule requiring companies (like Devon, a company that has paid you off) to retrofit drilling equipment to prevent leaks of methane gas and to collect more data on how much of the gas is spewing into the air. The Interior Dept. is also reconsidering a separate rule limiting the burning of unwanted methane gas from wells drilled on federal and Indian lands. We all know what methane gas does, don't we Mr. Pruitt? Mark Brownstein of the Environmental Defense Fund says that your friends at Devon 'are doing to the oil and gas industry (what your mentor, 45) did to the Republican Party, pushing the whole agenda into a world of extremes.'

On 13 June you told EPA economists verbally to produce a new cost-benefit analysis that showed no quantifiable benefit to preserving wetlands. This report was produced on 16 June. This repeal process is political staff giving verbal directions to get the outcome they want, essentially overnight according to Ms. Southerland, who retired in May of this year. Who do you think you are fooling Mr. Pruitt? By locking yourself in your office and being escorted by bodyguards doesn't say a whole lot about your confidence in how your efforts are being received by EPA employees and the American people.

Nor apparently, do you have real confidence in your staff, hiding from them and not giving details about your whereabouts. It is said that in April you travelled to a hazardous waste site in Chicago, yet the EPA employees at the agency's Chicago office didn't even know you were there. You did not visit the Chicago branch or meet with EPA staff members. Why is this Mr. Pruitt? Are you so unpopular with your own staff?

Here is a poster for your office and for your wife and children, so they know what you are proudly doing to our country in order to fill your own pockets. All that is missing are the horns on your head and the smirk you usually wear.

Sincerely, Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Illustration by Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

To: Pruitt, Scott[Pruitt.Scott@epa.gov]
Cc: Elizabeth_Strimer@mcconnell.senate.gov[Elizabeth_Strimer@mcconnell.senate.gov];
rocint@schumer.senate.gov[rocint@schumer.senate.gov];
AmericanVoices@mail.house.gov[AmericanVoices@mail.house.gov];
connect@messages.speaker.gov[connect@messages.speaker.gov]
From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Sent: Tue 8/1/2017 2:36:24 PM
Subject: DISSENT INSIDE EPA DEEPENS/Veteran's Farewell Decries Radical Pollution "Deregulation"

Administrator Scott Pruitt
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
pruitt.scott@epa.gov

Re: DISSENT INSIDE EPA DEEPENS/Veteran's Farewell Decries Radical Pollution
"Deregulation"

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

A 30-year U.S. Environmental Protection Agency senior official is leaving federal service today convinced that her agency is being steered in a disastrously wrong direction. She is an eyewitness to the wreckage wreaked by you and your cadre of political appointees.

Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland has a PhD in Environmental Science and Engineering and has worked in both the private sector and state government. At EPA, she served in both the Water and Superfund programs as a senior executive, managing first as a Division Director in both programs and then as the Director of the Office of Science and Technology in the Office of Water. In 2015 she received the Distinguished Presidential Rank Award. Her farewell message to her colleagues warns that you –

Have "repeals of 30 rules under consideration" most of which aim at "industry deregulation" of an array of toxic substances and practices that can threaten human health;

Seek "abandonment of the polluter pays principal that underlies all environmental statutes";
and

Are pursuing policies that promise to repeat human health and environmental catastrophes, such as Flint, Michigan's drinking water crisis.

As is clear from Betsy's three-decade perspective, your pledge to restore 'EPA originalism' is nothing but a pernicious myth. In your EPA it is hard to identify even a single action to better protect the environment.

One of the rollbacks cited by Dr. Southerland in her message is the steam electric rule requiring that "the highly toxic wastes of coal fired electric plants be treated rather than poured untreated into large holding ponds where toxic chemicals seep into ground water and overflow into surface water, contaminating public water supplies and private wells and poisoning fish and wildlife." This rule was promulgated following "the 70-mile long Duke Energy spill into the Dan River of North Carolina in 2014."

Compounding growing problems inside EPA is an autocratic and secretive your management style in which you decline to meet directly with non-political staff, refuse to use email so as to not create any record, and issue orders to create decision documents at odds with the overwhelming weight of evidence. For example, you recently oversaw an unjustified retroactive rewrite of the cost-benefit study relating the Waters of the U.S. Rule so as to make as much as a half billion dollars in benefits disappear from the analysis.

Increasingly, principled professionals, who have proudly served administrations from both parties, are under orders to betray, rather than serve, the public interest by remaining at EPA. Such as your move to cancel all employee health club benefits while traveling extensively back to Oklahoma constantly surrounded by a phalanx of armed security agents. "In only a few months on the job, you have become the leading candidate for worst boss in the world.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

cc: House Democratic Whip Office

Senator Mitch McConnell
RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-2541

[Elizabeth Strimer@mccconnell.senate.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Strimer@mccconnell.senate.gov)

Senator Chuck Schumer
Democratic Leader
RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
Washington, DC 20510

rocint@schumer.senate.gov

Representative Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
233 Cannon H.O.B.
Washington, DC20515
phone: (202) 225-4965

AmericanVoices@mail.house.gov

Speaker Paul Ryan
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-0600
Fax: (202) 225-2012

connect@messages.speaker.gov

2527 Faxon Court
Topeka, Kansas 66605-2086
P/F: 1 785 379-9671
E-mail: [r e rutkowski@att.net](mailto:r_e_rutkowski@att.net)

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Lyons, Troy[lyons.troy@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Thur 9/21/2017 3:30:33 PM
Subject: APPROVAL: LA Times questions -- civil service

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Background Without Attribution – As Everything Below Is In The Public Domain

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she

found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Betsy Southerland questioned Pruitt’s decision to partner with states to protect the environment. “Southerland questioned Pruitt’s belief that the EPA and federal environmental standards were guilty of ‘running roughshod over states’ rights.” ([The Huffington Post](#), 08/02/17)

Governor Dayton (DFL-MN) praised Administrator Pruitt for working with the states and even said he didn’t want the regional EPA offices micromanaging his state. “Gov. Mark Dayton described a meeting Wednesday with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt as ‘productive and cordial’ and said he’s hopeful the Trump administration will eliminate some of the federal government red tape dealt to state agencies. ‘We don’t believe we need to be micromanaged by Region 5 in Chicago,’ Dayton said during a news conference following a meeting at the Capitol that lasted more than an hour.” ([Minnesota Public Radio](#), 07/19/17)

According to McClatchy, Congress will move forward with their own budget. “Trump’s fellow Republicans control both chambers of Congress, but even so lawmakers are expected to move forward with their own budget blueprint this spring, as they traditionally have done.” ([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

The White House’s Budget no matter who is in power has become increasingly irrelevant as Congress has the power of the purse. “First, no matter who has been in the White House in recent years the president’s budget has become increasingly irrelevant to what, if anything, gets done. This is not Obama-dependent: it has been happening over the past few decades.” ([Forbes](#), 02/01/16)

In 2015, President Obama’s budget received 1 vote. “President Obama’s budget suffered its latest ignominious defeat when the Senate rejected it on a 98-1 vote Tuesday evening, capping off the first votes of the budget season.” ([The Washington Times](#), 03/24/15)

In 2012, not a single person in the Senate or the House voted for President Obama’s budget. “President Obama’s budget suffered a second embarrassing defeat Wednesday, when senators voted 99-0 to reject it. Coupled with the House’s rejection in March, 414-0, that means Mr. Obama’s budget has failed to win a single vote in support this year.” ([The Washington Times](#), 05/16/12)

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said that he expects Congress to ignore the budget. “Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell has already said he expects the Republican-led Congress to largely ignore the proposal, saying in an interview last week with Bloomberg News that early versions reflected priorities that “aren’t necessarily ours.” ([Bloomberg](#), 05/22/17)

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

From: Halper, Evan [<mailto:Evan.Halper@latimes.com>]

Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:35 AM

To: Press <Press@epa.gov>

Subject: LA Times questions -- civil service

Good morning:

I am reaching out for comment from the agency for a story about the civil service under the Trump administration. Does the EPA have a response to the concerns raised by recently departed employees such as Betsy Southerland and Michael Cox – and echoed by advocacy groups and lawmakers -- that it is sidelining its own scientific research and scientists in pursuit of the Trump political agenda? Has its approach to taking input from career staff changed with this administration?

You can reach me at 916.201.6398 if you would prefer to discuss in an interview. My deadline is 3:30 p.m. today. Thanks very much for your attention to this.

Best,

Evan Halper

National Reporter

Los Angeles Times

To: Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Bolen, Brittany[bolen.brittany@epa.gov]
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 6:26:24 PM
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elq-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Dravis, Samantha
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:52 AM
To: Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Betsy Southerland is the one who made the accusation that those numbers are not accurate, and she is wrong.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:48 AM, Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey, I can't pull up the original press release anymore. Says page not available. However,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg <[REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy [REDACTED]>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an

interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well
yesterday afternoon; I'm
available anytime to field
questions or concerns. Please

let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM,
James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below.
I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Great talking to you
Jahan. Thanks for the
call. You can reach
me anytime at

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the
60 Minutes piece I
produced featuring
then-Senator Tom
Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the
original letter I sent
requesting the
interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship

public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a
balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will

also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to
put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into
a
larger
economic
and
political
context
for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including

a
wide
range
of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is
to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,

fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people
look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look
at
the
IRS."
This
documentary
will
trace
the

recent
history
of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in
his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts

to
roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to
spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in
the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative

economic
impact
of
the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,
without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If possible, we would like to arrange an on-camera interview with Mr. Pruitt. We are also interested in following him on any upcoming media events on his Back to Basics tour. We can discuss that further, but our primary objective is to sit down with Mr.

Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this

request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell
is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Dravis, Samantha[dravis.samantha@epa.gov]; Bolen, Brittany[bolen.brittany@epa.gov]
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]; Letendre, Daisy[letendre.daisy@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 6:43:37 PM
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Great thank you.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 2:43 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov>; Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Dravis, Samantha
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:52 AM
To: Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>
Cc: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>;

Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Greenwalt, Sarah <greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Betsy Southerland is the one who made the accusation that those numbers are not accurate, and she is wrong.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:48 AM, Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov> wrote:

Hey, I can't pull up the original press release anymore. Says page not available. However,

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto: Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,
<**Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well yesterday afternoon; I'm available anytime to field questions or concerns. Please let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM,
James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below. I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv>
wrote:

Great talking to you
Jahan. Thanks for the
call. You can reach
me anytime at

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the
60 Minutes piece I
produced featuring
then-Senator Tom
Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the
original letter I sent
requesting the
interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship
public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a
balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind

Obama-era energy and environmental policies; the program will also seek to explain why the Environmental Protection Agency had become the subject of criticism throughout the country.

We are seeking to put the debate about environmental regulations into a larger economic and political context

for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including
a
wide
range
of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is
to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As

you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,
fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people
look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they

look
at
the
IRS."
This
documentary
will
trace
the
recent
history
of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in

his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts
to
roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to
spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in

the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative
economic
impact
of
the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,
without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most

important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If
possible,
we
would
like
to
arrange
an
on-
camera
interview
with
Mr.
Pruitt.
We
are
also
interested
in
following
him
on
any
upcoming
media
events
on
his
Back
to
Basics
tour.
We
can
discuss
that
further,
but

our
primary
objective
is
to
sit
down
with
Mr.
Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy

to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this
request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell
is

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Greenwalt, Sarah[greenwalt.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 9:48:27 PM
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Thanks buddy.

From: Greenwalt, Sarah
Sent: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 9:08 AM
To: Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>
Cc: Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Bolen, Brittany <bolen.brittany@epa.gov>; Letendre, Daisy <letendre.daisy@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process please note that it's SouthERland.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:44 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:42 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Well you absolutely made the right call on that one.

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:41 AM, Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov> wrote:

Yes, they've been working on this for months. They've interviewed several people from the Administrators past in OK. We chose to decline participation with an interview.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:39 AM, Dravis, Samantha <dravis.samantha@epa.gov> wrote:

Copying in Sarah.

Guys, did we know this was coming? Is it an entire episode, or just a segment of an episode?

Sent from my iPad

On Oct 4, 2017, at 8:14 AM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record.
What is your response?

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 7:01 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Let me know if you need help on this

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM
To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>
Cc: Anya Bourg <anya.bourg@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM,
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James
Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well yesterday afternoon; I'm available anytime to field questions or concerns. Please let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below. I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM,
James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Great talking to you
Jahan. Thanks for the
call. You can reach me
anytime at Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the 60
Minutes piece I produced
featuring then-Senator
Tom Coburn:

[http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-
usa/](http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/)

And here is the original
letter I sent requesting the
interview with the
Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I
am
a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship

public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I
am
reaching
out
to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for
an
hour-
long
program
we
are
producing
that
will
take
a
balanced
look
at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will

also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to
put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into
a
larger
economic
and
political
context
for
our
viewers.
We
will
do
so
by
including

a
wide
range
of
perspectives
on
the
real-
world
cost
of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will
air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of
this
program
is
to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline
is
respected
for
its
depth,

fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.
We
think
it
is
vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as
he
puts
it,
"people
look
at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look
at
the
IRS."
This
documentary
will
trace
the

recent
history
of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG
to
argue
for
the
rule
of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like
to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in
his
new
role
as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts

to
roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to
get
the
EPA
"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like
to
spend
time
in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in
the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative

economic
impact
of
the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma
City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as
a
result
of
the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that
is,
without
a
doubt,
one
of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in
this
country's
recent
history.

If possible, we would like to arrange an on-camera interview with Mr. Pruitt. We are also interested in following him on any upcoming media events on his Back to Basics tour. We can discuss that further, but our primary objective is to sit down with Mr.

Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If
it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and
I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you
in
person
to
discuss
this

request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell

is Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

I
look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: jjacoby@leftright.tv[jjacoby@leftright.tv]; anya.bourg4 [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/4/2017 9:55:31 PM
Subject: FW: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ (Politico Pro, 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” (Seattle Times, 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

On-The-Record Statement: “The \$1.2 B came straight from EPAs RIA. It was the upper estimate of the rules compliance costs for the first five years.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

On-The-Record Statement ... “This is a false characterization.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

From: Wilcox, Jahan

Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2017 6:44 PM

To: James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv>

Cc: Anya Bourg <[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy](#)> Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Ferguson, Lincoln <ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: FRONTLINE (PBS) interview request for Scott Pruitt

Will work on these and get back to you tomorrow.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 2, 2017, at 4:52 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hello Jahan,

We are in the process of finishing our film for FRONTLINE that is scheduled to air on October 11th. As you know from our prior communication, the film traces the political rise of Administrator Pruitt along with the movement, in which he participated, that challenged the former administration's approach. And as you know, over the past few months, we have repeatedly requested an interview with Mr. Pruitt.

We are now seeking your comment on claims in published reports and in our film, from former EPA staffers.

1) They have characterized the Administrator and his staff as inhospitable to their input and the facts of the case, secretive, and careful to avoid creating a public record. What is your response?

2) Specifically, we have been told that first press release announcing the review of the effluent limitations guidelines (See link, <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-reconsider-elg-rule>) contained erroneous information: citing the 1.2 billion as the highest cost which could be spent to comply with the rule in a few years invalidates the 480 million average annual cost which assumes costs are spread out over a number of years. If you cite a maximum cost over a few years, then you need to cite a much lower average annual cost than 480M.

3) We were also told that attempts to correct the record on the effluent limitations guideline press release by EPA staff went unanswered, and then afterwards Administrator Pruitt did not heed the recommendations of his senior staff on this topic.

We would greatly appreciate a timely response to this request because we are locking our film this week, if possible by end of day Wednesday, October 4th.

Thank you,

James Jacoby and Anya Bourg

On Tue, Sep 5, 2017 at 1:25 PM, JACOBY James <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Can we talk?

Thanks,

James

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 11:49 AM, JACOBY James <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Jahan,

Just following up yet again. I'd never heard back from you.

Thanks,

James

On Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 12:46 PM, <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope all's well. Following up.

Thanks,

James

On Jun 30, 2017, at 9:22 AM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Just following up.

Any word?

Thanks,

James

On Jun 26, 2017, at 10:19 AM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Go

On Jun 21, 2017, at 12:46 PM, James Jacoby <jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Hi Jahan,

Hope the meeting went well yesterday afternoon; I'm

available anytime to field questions or concerns. Please let me know how best to follow up.

Best,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:27 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Jahan

Sent you the email below. I just wanted to reiterate something: the bottom line is we want to understand where the Administrator is coming from and where he wants to bring the agency. Frontline is the best possible venue to get into depth and nuance as opposed to soundbites. As we discussed, there's a prevailing narrative out there about the Administrator; if there's more to the story, we're seeking to understand it.

Many thanks,

James

On Jun 20, 2017, at 2:11 PM, James Jacoby
<jjacoby@leftright.tv> wrote:

Great talking to you Jahan. Thanks for the call.
You can reach me anytime at Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Here's the link to the 60 Minutes piece I produced

featuring then-Senator Tom Coburn:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/disability-usa/>

And here is the original letter I sent requesting the interview with the Administrator:

Dear
J.P.,

I am a
producer
with
FRONTLINE,
the
flagship
public
affairs
series
on
PBS.

I am
reaching
out to
discuss
the
prospect
of
interviewing
Scott
Pruitt
for an
hour-
long
program
we are
producing
that
will

take a
balanced
look at
the
effort
to
unwind
Obama-
era
energy
and
environmental
policies;
the
program
will
also
seek
to
explain
why
the
Environmental
Protection
Agency
had
become
the
subject
of
criticism
through-
out
the
country.

We
are
seeking
to put
the
debate
about
environmental
regulations
into a

larger
economic
and
political
context
for our
viewers.
We
will do
so by
including
a wide
range
of
perspectives
on the
real-
world
cost of
environmental
regulations
and
their
impact
on
industry.
The
documentary
will air
in
October/November.

The
purpose
of this
program
is to
create
something
comprehensive
and
informative.
As
you
may
know,
Frontline

is
respected
for its
depth,
fairness,
and
commitment
to
nuanced
story-
telling.

We
think it
is vital
that
our
viewers
hear
from
Mr.
Pruitt.
He
can
help
our
viewers
understand
why,
as he
puts it,
"people
look at
the
EPA
the
way
they
look at
the
IRS."

This
documentary
will
trace
the
recent
history

of
grievances
with
the
EPA
including
Mr.
Pruitt's
efforts
as
Oklahoma
AG to
argue
for the
rule of
law
against
EPA
regulations
fourteen
times.
We
would
also
like to
interview
Mr.
Pruitt
about
his
goals
in his
new
role as
EPA
Administrator,
particularly
his
efforts
to roll
back
Obama-
era
policies
to get
the
EPA

"back
to
basics."

We
are
planning
to
spend
some
time
filming
in
Washington
DC,
and
we
would
also
like to
spend
time in
Oklahoma
and
elsewhere
in the
heartland
where
one
can
clearly
see
the
transformative
economic
impact
of the
energy
industry.
I've
heard
from
friends
and
colleagues
in
Oklahoma

City
that
the
city
has
blossomed
as a
result
of the
shale
revolution -
a
revolution
that is,
without
a
doubt,
one of
the
most
important
economic
developments
in this
country's
recent
history.

If
possible,
we
would
like to
arrange
an on-
camera
interview
with
Mr.
Pruitt.
We
are
also
interested
in
following
him on

any
upcoming
media
events
on his
Back
to
Basics
tour.
We
can
discuss
that
further,
but
our
primary
objective
is to
sit
down
with
Mr.
Pruitt
to
understand
his
views
on
federalism
as
they
relate
to
environmental
regulation
and
how
he
plans
to
balance
economic
expansion
with
environmental
concerns.

If it
would
be
helpful,
my
colleagues
and I
would
be
happy
to
meet
with
you in
person
to
discuss
this
request.
I'm
available
any
time
by
phone
to
address
any
questions
or
concerns.
My
cell
is [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]

I look
forward
to
hearing
from
you.

Many
thanks,

James
Jacoby

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 7:28:43 PM
Subject: RE: Pruitt

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained

By FOIA, 07/26/17)

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Im not replying to this garbage, unless it is to say "This is nonsense"

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

His articles look like DNC blog posts.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:40 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Ah, this is what I would call morbid:

<http://www.journalism.org/2013/06/03/newsweek-numbers/>

**Newsweek has not been audited since 2013 According to the Pew Research Center

From: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy On Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 7:45:16 PM
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Sure.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

This is good with me, can you please reply to reporter directly?

From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work

on climate adaptation,' said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency's senior adviser for climate adaptation. 'Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.' ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities "invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 3:27 PM
To: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Im not replying to this garbage, unless it is to say "This is nonsense"

From: Abboud, Michael
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

His articles look like DNC blog posts.

From: Bowman, Liz
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 1:40 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Konkus, John <konkus.john@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Pruitt

Ah, this is what I would call morbid:

<http://www.journalism.org/2013/06/03/newsweek-numbers/>

**Newsweek has not been audited since 2013 According to the Pew Research Center

From: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy On Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: alexnazaryan[REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 7:46:38 PM
Subject: Here is our statement for Newsweek

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. “Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out

I needed to retire to help out with family medical care.” (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: 202.309.0934
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: [REDACTED] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** On Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Alexander Nazaryan[[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy](#)]
Cc: Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Wed 10/11/2017 8:21:52 PM
Subject: RE: Here is our statement for Newsweek

No, this response is to your query.

From: Alexander Nazaryan [mailto:[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy](#)]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:19 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

I don't think this response is to my query. I was specifically asking about administrator's visits --- or lack thereof -- to EPA regional offices.

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.”
– EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the

Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,' said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency's senior adviser for climate adaptation. 'Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.' ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities "invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don't overflow so that they don't spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams," for example. 'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On Behalf Of**
Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

To: Abboud, Michael[abboud.michael@epa.gov]; Hewitt, James[hewitt.james@epa.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]; Konkus, John[konkus.john@epa.gov]; Ferguson, Lincoln[ferguson.lincoln@epa.gov]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Thur 11/16/2017 8:12:19 PM
Subject: APPROVAL

I am going to give Newsweek this statement as well:

“Administrator Pruitt has met with staff from every region and took the unprecedented step of meeting with EPA’s criminal investigators – a department that Obama slashed by 24 percent – about how we can work together to protect the environment and American jobs.”

From: [REDACTED] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** **On Behalf Of** Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2017 1:37 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

Are you guys still able to get me these numbers? Thanks.

On Thu, Nov 2, 2017 at 3:41 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

We will get a number tomorrow for you.

On Nov 2, 2017, at 6:19 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

I am not trying to be a pest, but can someone please answer my inquiries?

On Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:42 PM, Alexander Nazaryan
<a.nazaryan@newsweek.com> wrote:

Hi, I don't think my question was especially difficult: given that Admin. Pruitt has explicitly said he would like to lighten regulatory burden, can you please quantify how he has done so?

I'd also asked about how many Regional hqs he has visited. No answer to that, either.

I'm sure you're all very busy, but he is a public official, running a public agency. I believe the people deserve answers.

Thank you.

On Tue, Oct 31, 2017 at 12:57 PM Alexander Nazaryan

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy > wrote:

Hi, I am continuing to work on my piece about Administrator Pruitt. If there is any chance of speaking with him by phone in the next month or so, we would of course welcome it.

In the meantime, I'd love to have some help in figuring out how many regulations Mr. Pruitt has either cancelled or delayed the implementation of since February. I'm seeing 30 as a number online, but that appears to be outdated.

Thank you.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan
<wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example.

'We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,' Scheraga said. 'They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA's mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.' ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. "Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump's election, and that he's not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office." ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." ([NTK Network](#), Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: [202.309.0934](tel:202.309.0934)
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy **On**
Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his

employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
From: Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Mon 10/23/2017 10:19:49 PM
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

What do you say?

On Mon, Oct 23, 2017 at 2:55 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

What do you mean such little press, we just did an interview with Time (20 minutes), Houston Chronicle, Fox 26 Houston, CBS 11 in Lincoln and a radio interview in Nebraska - all last week.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 23, 2017, at 5:35 PM, Alexander Nazaryan <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy> wrote:

Jahan, I'd like to put in for an interview with Administrator Pruitt. It seems odd to me that a public official does so little press. All I'd like to do is ask him some very basic questions about his vision for the EPA. Thanks.

Alexander

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 1:21 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov> wrote:

No, this response is to your query.

From: Alexander Nazaryan [mailto:Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 4:19 PM
To: Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>
Cc: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Abboud, Michael <abboud.michael@epa.gov>; Hewitt, James <hewitt.james@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Here is our statement for Newsweek

I don't think this response is to my query. I was specifically asking about administrator's visits --- or lack thereof -- to EPA regional offices.

On Wed, Oct 11, 2017 at 12:46 PM, Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

wrote:

On-The-Record Statement ... “We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees. In their own words, Mr. Cox said was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer funded pension and we wish them the best.” – EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

BACKGROUND RESEARCH ...

According to career EPA employee Joel Scheraga, he has a great working relationship with EPA employees. “Staff from the EPA’s disbanded climate adaptation office are still doing the same work despite moving to different offices a few months ago, the head of the team told POLITICO. An EPA reorganization finalized last week revealed that the agency followed through with a plan set in the spring to reassign four climate change adaptation employees to two different sections of the Office of Policy, which is run by Samantha Dravis, a longtime political strategist and top aide to Administrator Scott Pruitt. ‘Unequivocally, the Office of Policy continues to support work on climate adaptation,’ said Joel Scheraga, a veteran EPA employee and the agency’s senior adviser for climate adaptation. ‘Samantha Dravis has asked me to continue working on climate adaptation issues. The bottom line is that climate adaptation work continues.’ ... Scheraga said the agency wants to help make sure that as communities “invest literally billions of dollars in new [water] systems that they in fact are better prepared for these extreme weather events so that they don’t overflow so that they don’t spill raw sewage into our lakes and streams,” for example. ‘We work with the communities to provide them with the information and the tools that they have told us they need to address their needs,’ Scheraga said. ‘They have told us they need to deal with these more intense precipitation events, these storm surges, so that in fact they can continue to protect public health and the environment, again consistent with EPA’s mission to ensure that they continue to protect water quality and can provide safe drinking water.’ ([Politico Pro](#), 09/11/17)

Michael Cox said his retirement was planned before Administrator Pruitt was nominated and confirmed by the Senate. “Cox said his own retirement had been long planned even before Trump’s election, and that he’s not aware of any big exodus of EPA staff from the Seattle office.” ([Seattle Times](#), 04/12/17)

In an email to an EPA colleague, Betsy Southland said she retired because she found out that she needed to help out with family medical care. "Maybe you did not receive my email about my retirement, but I sent it to you in June as soon as I found out I needed to retire to help out with family medical care." (NTK Network, Email Obtained By FOIA, 07/26/17)

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: 202.309.0934
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

From: [REDACTED] **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy** **On**
Behalf Of Alexander Nazaryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 12:34 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Subject: Pruitt

Hi Liz, working on a piece about the administrator's relationship to his employees. I heard today that he hasn't visited a single EPA office outside DC. Can you please confirm?

Also, is he aware that the mood inside EPA is "morbid," as it has been described to me? Is he doing anything about that?

Thank you.

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

--

Alexander Nazaryan

Senior Writer

Newsweek

(718) 612-3356

<http://www.newsweek.com/authors/alex-nazaryan>

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
Cc: Michael Cox [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
From: Michael Cox
Sent: Wed 9/27/2017 7:34:31 PM
Subject: September 26th LA Times Article
February 24th 2017 email to EPA transition team.docx
March 13th 2017 email to EPA transition team.docx

I am writing in response to your comments that were included in an article by Evan Halper on September 26 in the Los Angeles Times (*Civil servants charge Trump is sidelining workers with expertise on climate change, environment*). In the article you are quoted as saying:

We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees,” agency spokesman Jahan Wilcox wrote in an email. “In their own words, Mr. Cox said he was planning his retirement before the new administration and Ms. Southerland said she was retiring due to a family issue. Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer-funded pension and we wish them the best.”

I would like to provide a response to several of the statements made above.

“We have a great working relationship with career EPA employees”

I am sure you believe this is the case. However, career EPA employees who I talk with in the Regional offices, HQs, and the Labs do not share this belief. What I hear are employees who are not consulted on issues; learn about decisions via the press; and are demoralized because of the push by Administrator Pruitt to cut the EPA budget and staff. Of course you will dispute this, but I can only relate what I hear from friends and colleagues with whom I worked for several decades.

Also, please correct me if I am wrong, but my understanding is that Administrator Pruitt, since becoming Administrator, has not visited the EPA Regions or Labs to meet career EPA employees. The exceptions are random visits to Superfund sites or to Texas after hurricane Harvey. Please ask Administrator Pruitt to honor his commitment to listen and learn from EPA staff that he made during his first address to EPA staff.

“Despite the faux outrage, both employees will receive their six-figure taxpayer-funded pension and we wish them the best”

You state that both Ms. Southerland and I retired, which is true. What I do not understand is what you mean by the phrase “Despite the faux outrage”. Faux of course meaning “fake” or fake outrage, which I assume means “untrue” or a more severe interpretation “lies”. This interpretation is consistent with the use of “fake news” by other Administration officials to indicate something they do not agree with.

It is true that the criticism and comments I have made about the direction of EPA are my opinions. However, they are based on over 25 years of working at EPA and, in the case of Ms. Southerland, over 40 years. I would not characterize my opinions as “faux outrage”. If the feedback and support from career EPA employees that I received after my retirement is any gauge, I think I nailed it.

In terms of the “six-figure taxpayer-funded pension”, I am very mindful that my pension is paid for by tax payers. I am very thankful that we are lucky enough as Federal employees to have a pension when the majority of Americans are not so lucky. However, I take exception to the idea that I receive a six-figure pension (I guess if you count the numbers after the decimal point then yes I do have a seven-figure pension). In summary:

Total Gross Yearly Benefits including health benefits = \$48,991.68

Total Net Yearly Benefits (minus my share of health benefits and Federal Income Tax) = \$39,163.20.

I am certainly not complaining about the pension, but want you to understand that stating I have a six-figure pension is wrong and feeds into the false narrative of over-compensated Federal employees. If you would like to change the Federal employee pension system, I would suggest you lobby your Congressional representatives.

“...and we wish them the best”

I may be reading into the words, but this seems so disingenuous and insincere to wish Ms. Southerland and myself the best when you just called us liars and greedy.

Emails to EPA Beachhead Team Members

I am enclosing two emails I sent to Mr. Don Benton and Mr. Doug Erickson (members of the EPA Beach Head Team) when I worked at EPA. I provided them with some ideas on how Administrator Pruitt could work better with EPA staff. I think the comments are still relevant today.

Finally, I know there are bigger issues in the U.S. and the world than a few words in an article in the LA Times. However, I think the direction Administrator Pruitt is taking EPA is wrong, and in the end the people of the U.S. and the world will be the ones who are harmed. EPA is looked upon by the world as a shining example of how a country should do environmental protection and protect its citizens. I continue

to believe the majority of American citizens support the EPA. It saddens me to see the organization that I, and many of my friends and colleagues, have worked so hard to make into a great organization now being sacrificed on the altar of ideology. I know you have a tough job in defending, in many cases, the indefensible. But please, instead of dismissing any criticism of EPA outright, ask yourself and others around you that maybe this Administration is going too far in trying to reshape EPA and jeopardizing the health of the American people and protection of our valuable environmental resources.

Michael Cox

To: Wilcox, Jahan[wilcox.jahan@epa.gov]
From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Sent: Wed 8/2/2017 5:57:41 AM
Subject: Your statement as EPA spokesman

Dear Sir,

After serving honorably in the United States Coast Guard for over 20 years, I have to tell you that your statement concerning Elizabeth Southerland's recent retirement is distasteful and bordering on disgusting from someone serving our nation. Belittling the personal statement of another government worker who has served honorably in positions of high trust does a disservice to us all.

One would think that a spokesman representing a government agency would think twice before ever making a statement of this tenor again.

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

To: Graham, Amy[graham.amy@epa.gov]; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO[Kelly.A.Love@who.eop.gov]; Bowman, Liz[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov]
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO[Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Mon 7/31/2017 9:31:45 PM
Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer "Quits" Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Here was the email from WaPo ...

From: Davidson, Joe [mailto:joe.davidson@washpost.com]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 12:55 PM
To: Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Washington Post deadline questions re: Elizabeth "Betsy" Southerland

Hello EPA,

I'm writing a Federal Insider column today about Elizabeth Southerland, director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA's Office of Water. Her resignation is effective today. I'd like to get EPA reaction to her departure comments.

In a farewell message to her colleagues, Southerland says:

*the proposed FY18 budget cuts to state, tribal and federal environmental programs would result in thousands of jobs lost in the short term, in EPA, state and tribal governments, and the private environmental consulting firms which support those governmental agencies"

*the major budget cuts to EPA, state and tribal environmental programs and the potential repeal of many existing regulations and science documents is not a cooperative federalism approach. It is an industry deregulation approach based on abandonment of the polluter pays principle that underlies all environmental statutes and regulations. When the federal government abandons the polluter pays principle, it will be up to the states, tribes and local government to decide how much of the polluters bills they will ask their residents to take on. The best case for our children and grandchildren is that they will pay the polluters bills through increased state taxes, new user fees, and higher water and sewer bills. The worst case is that they will have to live with increased

public health and safety risks and a degraded environment."

Southerland told me that EPA suffers from "the temporary triumph of myth over truth." She added: "Without giving EPA staff the chance to brief him on 30 different rules, the Administrator made the decision to grant industry requests, stay compliance dates, and reconsider the rules. He also issued press releases stating that these rules are job killers causing economic harm, indicating his reconsideration may be biased."

Does EPA have any comment on her remarks? I am on deadline.

Thank you.

Best,

Joe

Joe Davidson, columnist

The Washington Post

1301 K Street, NW

Washington, DC 20071

202.334.6415 – work

202.580.9552 – cell

joe.davidson@washpost.com

Twitter: [@JoeDavidsonWP](https://twitter.com/JoeDavidsonWP)

Website: wapo.st/JoeDavidson

From: Wilcox, Jahan

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:30 PM

To: Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>; Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>

Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy>; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hey guys we pitched this because the same Washington Post reporter who wrote about Mike Cox is writing about this. Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Ex. 5 - Deliberative Process

Below is my pitch.

Earlier this spring, there was an EPA employee who was eligible for retirement and claimed he was quitting because of Trump and his proposed budget, when in reality he was just retiring because he was eligible for his pension. Of course the liberal Washington Post and other outlets jumped on the news.

● The Washington Post: EPA staffer leaves with a bang, blasting agency policies under Trump – April 7, 2015

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2017/04/07/epa-staffer-leaves-with-a-bang-blasting-agency-policies-under-trump/?utm_term=.bf260e6e228a

Well another employee is doing the same thing and she’s claiming that due to President Trump’s proposed budget she is quitting, but it’s widely known that presidential budgets – no matter what party you are from – never get rubberstamped by Congress. Below is the WaPo inquiry along with along with why the employee is claiming to retire.

Additionally, would also point out that last year Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000. For comparison, a Senator or Congressman’s salary is \$174,000 and the average American makes \$44,000 according the Census Bureau.

Curious if you would be interested in writing about this, because the left and environmentalists will make a big deal out of nothing.

“It’s hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she’s eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water.” EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

OFF-THE-RECORD RESEARCH ...

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640.

(<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

From: Graham, Amy

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:26 PM

To: Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO <Kelly.A.Love@who.eop.gov>; Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Wilcox, Jahan <wilcox.jahan@epa.gov>

Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <Kaelan.K.Dorr@who.eop.gov>; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <Bradley.A.Rateike@who.eop.gov>; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO <Adam.R.Kennedy@who.eop.gov>

Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually

Retiring)

Jahan has the background on this and will share momentarily.

From: Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO [<mailto:Kelly.A.Love@who.eop.gov>]
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Bowman, Liz <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>; Graham, Amy <graham.amy@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <Kaelan.K.Dorr@who.eop.gov>; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <Bradley.A.Rateike@who.eop.gov>; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO <Adam.R.Kennedy@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Looping in Amy as well

From: Love, Kelly A. EOP/WHO
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:22 PM
To: 'Bowman, Liz' <Bowman.Liz@epa.gov>
Cc: Dorr, Kaelan K. EOP/WHO <Kaelan.K.Dorr@who.eop.gov>; Rateike, Bradley A. EOP/WHO <Bradley.A.Rateike@who.eop.gov>; Kennedy, Adam R. EOP/WHO <Adam.R.Kennedy@who.eop.gov>
Subject: FW: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hi Liz,

This seems greatly exaggerated, but let us know if you have any talkers we should be using if asked.

Thanks,

Kelly

From: RNC War Room [<mailto:Warroom@gop.com>]

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:06 PM

Subject: Hot Air: Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Another EPA Staffer “Quits” Because Of Trump (But Is Actually Retiring)

Hot Air

Jazz Shaw

July 31, 2017 – 4:01 PM

<http://hotair.com/archives/2017/07/31/another-epa-staffer-quits-trump-actually-retiring/><

Remember when Mike Cox, a climate change adviser at the EPA, “quit” his job because of his disagreements with the Trump administration and sent in a “scathing letter of resignation?” As it turned out, Cox was actually retiring and had been eligible for retirement for some time.

Well, that pattern is continuing this week. Elizabeth Southerland, the director of the Office of Science and Technology in EPA’s Office of Water, unceremoniously quit today. Her claimed reasons included problems with the President’s proposed budget and how much was being allocated to the EPA. This is a rather frivolous reason because, as has been well documented in the past, whatever budget the President initially submits is little more than a wish list which rarely carries any weight. Congress controls the power of the purse, so her anger should be directed at them if the funding is not to her liking.

But as I indicated above, most of this appears to be a smokescreen anyway. Southerland is eligible for retirement and it would be surprising indeed if she chose to eschew her government employee retirement benefits in some sort of principled stand. Those benefits should be impressive to say the least, since they are always based on the time in service and best salary of the worker. In the case of Ms. Southerland, she was doing quite well for herself on the taxpayer dime. In 2016 she earned just shy of a quarter million dollars, and has done similarly well (if a bit short of that) in other years dating back to at least 2011 with the EPA when she earned \$215K. Good work if you can get it to be sure, so if she elects to walk out the door and forfeit her benefits because of her moral revulsion to the agency providing them to her, expect to see a column here from me glorifying her for her remarkable moral fortitude. (But I’m not holding my breath.)

For their part, the EPA doesn't seem to be buying the "retirement" story either, but are still wishing Ms. Southerland a gracious bon voyage. This is from EPA spokesman Jahan Wilcox.

"It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her government pension. We wish Elizabeth Southerland the best in her retirement and the EPA will continue to re-focus on our core mission of protecting our air, land and water."

A generous and gracious farewell. I, for one, will wait to see if Elizabeth proves me wrong and turns down all those sweet taxpayer funded retirement benefits. Perhaps she could donate them all to the federal government's general fund to help out the less fortunate.

Disclaimer: The Republican National Committee provided the above article as a service to its employees and other selected individuals. Any opinions expressed therein are those of the article's author and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the RNC.

To: Jim Geraghty [Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy]
From: Wilcox, Jahan
Sent: Fri 8/4/2017 8:06:23 PM
Subject: Hey Jim -

Hope you are doing well.

Off-the-record, this week an EPA Employee decided to retire, but rather than leaving like a normal employee, she decided to put out a scathing memo to get attention for herself and to throw stones at President Trump, Administrator Pruitt and her old employer the EPA. She claims that she is retiring due to the President's budget but history has shown that Congress never rubberstamps the President's budget. All Southerland is doing is copying her former EPA colleague Mike Cox who too resigned due to Trump and claimed he was quitting because President Trump came to the EPA. What Mike didn't say is his office is in Seattle and the President came to HQ and he too qualified for a six-figure pension.

●■■■■■■■■ **Betsy Southerland: EPA won't be able to do the 'right thing' under Trump, says latest protesting official** ([The Washington Post](#), August 01, 2017)

●■■■■■■■■ **Mike Cox: EPA staffer leaves with a bang, blasting agency policies under Trump** ([The Washington Post](#), April 7, 2017)

Additionally, this employee (Betsy Southerland) made \$249,000 last year -- which puts her \$1,000 short of what Supreme Court Justices, \$30,000 more than the Vice President make, roughly \$70,000 more than what Senators make and about \$200,000 more than what the average taxpayer makes. On top of that, for the rest of her life she will collect a six-figure government pension -- as your pension is 75 percent of the average salary you made for the last three years in the government.

It's always worth noting that if she really cared about protecting the environment should would pass on her pension, which is in addition to her TSP Retirement Plan where the government matches up to 5 percent of your salary:

<https://www.tsp.gov/PlanParticipation/EligibilityAndContributions/typesOfContributions.html>.

Curious if you would be interested in writing about government employees (specifically rouge EPA employees) who are retiring because they are eligible for their six-figure lifetime government pension, but are attacking Trump and Pruitt because they are bitter about an election where the American people picked Donald Trump to be our next President.

Additionally, happy to pass along this on-the-record statement from the EPA: **"It's hard to believe that Elizabeth Southerland is retiring because of a budget proposal and not because she's eligible for her six-figure government pension. Last year, Southerland made \$249,000 and we're going to redirect that money, back to our core mission of protecting the environment."** - EPA spokesman, Jahan Wilcox

Jahan Wilcox
EPA
Strategic Communications Advisor
Work Cell: 202.309.0934
Work Email: wilcox.jahan@epa.gov

OFF-THE-RECORD RESEARCH THAT IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN ...

ELIZABETH SOUTHERLAND'S EPA COMPENSATION ...

In 2016, Elizabeth Southerland made \$249,000. (<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2015, Elizabeth Southerland made \$183,300. (<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2014, Elizabeth Southerland made \$181,500. (<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2013, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700. (<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2012, Elizabeth Southerland made \$179,700. (<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

In 2011, Elizabeth Southerland made \$215,640. (<https://www.federalpay.org/employees/environmental-protection-agency/southerland-elizabeth>, Accessed 07/31/17)

SALARY OF ELECTED OFFICIALS ...

2017: Vice President of the United States: \$230,700 (<https://www.thoughtco.com/top-us-government-officials-annual-salaries-3321465>, Accessed 08/04/17)

2017: Rank-and-File Senators and Representatives: \$174,000
(<https://www.thoughtco.com/top-us-government-officials-annual-salaries-3321465>, Accessed 08/04/17)

2017: Speaker of the House: \$223,500 (<https://www.thoughtco.com/top-us-government-officials-annual-salaries-3321465>, Accessed 08/04/17)

2017: Chief Justice of the United States: \$263,300 (<https://www.thoughtco.com/top-us-government-officials-annual-salaries-3321465>, Accessed 08/04/17)

2017: Associate Justices of the Supreme Court: \$251,800 (<https://www.thoughtco.com/top-us-government-officials-annual-salaries-3321465>, Accessed 08/04/17)

SALARY OF THE AVERAGE AMERICAN ...

In 2015, the Census Bureau estimated real median household income at \$55,775 in 2015. (Census Bureau, Accessed 08/04/17)

HISTORY OF THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET ...

According to McClatchy, Congress will move forward with their own budget. “Trump’s fellow Republicans control both chambers of Congress, but even so lawmakers are expected to move forward with their own budget blueprint this spring, as they traditionally have done.” (McClatchy, 03/16/17)

The White House’s Budget no matter who is in power has become increasingly irrelevant as Congress has the power of the purse. “First, no matter who has been in the White House in recent years the president’s budget has become increasingly irrelevant to what, if anything, gets done. This is not Obama-dependent: it has been happening over the past few decades.” (Forbes, 02/01/16)

In 2015, President Obama’s budget received 1 vote. “President Obama’s budget suffered its latest ignominious defeat when the Senate rejected it on a 98-1 vote Tuesday evening, capping off the first votes of the budget season.” (The Washington Times, 03/24/15)

In 2012, not a single person in the Senate or the House voted for President Obama’s budget. “President Obama’s budget suffered a second embarrassing defeat Wednesday, when senators voted 99-0 to reject it. Coupled with the House’s rejection in March, 414-0, that means Mr. Obama’s budget has failed to win a single vote in support this year.” (The Washington Times, 05/16/12)

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said that he expects Congress to ignore the budget. “Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell has already said he expects the

Republican-led Congress to largely ignore the proposal, saying in an interview last week with Bloomberg News that early versions reflected priorities that "aren't necessarily ours."
([Bloomberg](#), 05/22/17)

Senator Lindsey Graham said presidential budgets do not fare well. "Historically, presidential budgets do not fare well with Congress," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.
([McClatchy](#), 03/16/17)

Senate Appropriations Committee Member John Hoeven said this budget is a starting point. "'The budget's a starting point. We'll go to work from there,' said Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee." ([The Associated Press](#), 05/22/17)